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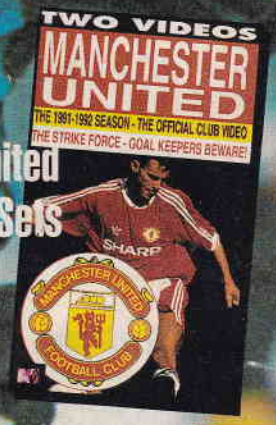

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WORLD SOCCER, 25th floor, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS.

Editor KEIR RADNEDGE
Managing Editor PETER STEWART
Group Art Editor STAN McDONALD
Design DARREN KIRK
Picture Editor DUNCAN BOND
Editorial: Tel:071 2615737 Fax:071 261 5007
Advertising Manager JULIAN CLARKE
Publisher ANDY McDUFF
Associate Publisher DAVID J.SMITH
Advertising: Tel: 071 261 5702
Subscriptions JACKIE BALDWIN Tel: 0444 445325
North American Enquiries: New York, NY 1001Y. Tel: (212) 867-2080 Fax: (212) 983-0745

Exclusive cross-talk between Johan Cruyff of Barcelona and Jupp Heynckes of Athletic Bilbao

Conducted by Karlheinz Wild /ESM

WHAT MAKES A WHAT MAKES

WORLD SOCCER: ***Which laws of the game would you change if you could?***

JOHAN CRUYFF: I would scrap yellow and red cards. We lose ten minutes each game now because the referee is so busy fiddling with the things and writing a book on the back of them.

JUPP HEYNCKES: When I was playing it was enough for the referee to say: "Do that again and you're off!" Introducing the colour cards has cut down a line of communication between players and referees. Also, referees are under unnecessary extra pressure now because two yellow cards automatically bring a red one. Referees should have some discretion left to them. I don't agree with an obligatory red card for hands in the penalty area, either. A penalty should be punishment enough.

JC: There are two basics in football: it's a game of mistakes and it's a man's game. You have to accept fouls in football, although not, of course, brutality. Today's football isn't any tougher than it used to be — just technically poorer.

WS: ***What about the "overflow" of foreign players who sit each Sunday in the stands in Italy?***

JC: That's a big problem. Milan's the obvious case with six foreigners for only three places. I thought, when Marco Van Basten was injured, that's bad luck for him but good news for the rest of the squad — in terms of selection pressure, of course!

JH: It's a problem which stems from the weakness of the trainers' situation. It wouldn't happen in Spain or Germany. But in Italy the presidents are all-powerful, even in technical matters and they make the decisions, not the coaches. If you respected the players, you'd never get into that position.

JC: Six players for three foreigner places are too many. Four would be the ideal number to maintain "proper" competition for selection.

JH: If Barcelona had signed Dennis Bergkamp that would have created problems for them. But anyway, he's not as good yet as he is being made out.

JC: I agree.

JH: But in Hristo Stoichkov, Michael Laudrup and Ronald Koeman you have three fine players.

JC: Yes, but each day they grow older. That was the case with Gary Lineker who was also, at the end of his time with us, getting just a little too old for what we needed. But we didn't know whether we could get Stoichkov or not. We weren't going to wreck our financial policy for one player. So, for a while, we had to work as best we could with the player we had. Maybe it was not ideal for him, either.

WS: ***Johan Cruyff, you have been heavily criticised at times in Spain. Yet you recommended Jupp Heynckes to come and work in Spain, too. How do you justify that?***

JC: The football world in Spain is highly intense but none the less stimulating for all that. In Germany or Holland football is just something which happens at the weekend. Here, in Spain, football is important every day of the week. If you accept that and throw yourself into it, then the people will respond positively.

JH: The "vibes" here are ten times what they are in German football. For example, at Bilbao, we have a very talented young player named Julen Guerrero. He's up until half past one in the morning giving radio interviews. To someone coming in from outside, that's unbelievable. Incredible. Conversely, you have to accept that criticism will be much louder and harder, when it comes. That's part of the business you must accept. Having said that, I'm sure things get even worse in Barcelona than in Bilbao!

CLUB, A PLAYER

WS: Jupp Heynckes apparently has no problems with his club president in Bilbao. But, are we to believe all the reports about how different the situation is with president Nunez at Barcelona?

JC: I have my particular ideas about football, how it should be played and how it should be run. I also have a particular expertise on the subject because football is my profession and my life. Club presidents are lawyers, bankers, businessmen and experts in their own spheres. But I don't believe any of them has anything to teach me about the game.

JH: Where the sport of football is concerned in Bilbao there is only one man whose opinion counts and that is me. If you appoint the right man, with the right qualifications, you must let him do the job.

JC: Let's be clear: I don't want more problems. All I do want is more control over both the professional and the youth set-ups at Barcelona. If we're buying a new player it is essential I decide how much he should cost. That should not be a matter for the president. His responsibilities must lie with administration and organisation. I must decide about the football. That's what I'm paid for.

JH: If something goes wrong, then of course the trainer has to be held responsible. In Spain I sometimes think people don't like taking decisions. But I won't have anyone getting in the way. For example, I do not allow this custom you get at many clubs whereby directors wander in and out of the dressing room before a game and at half-time.

JC: I insist on that, as well. When I went to Barcelona it seemed all 32 members of the board were strolling around the dressing room, with their fat cigars, before and after the game. I know the harm that does to your concentration. Sometimes even I don't go into the dressing room until 20 minutes after a game.

JH: I make it a rule never to say anything about a game back in the dressing room. Time for that later.

WS: Can you imagine meeting one day as managers of Germany and Holland?

JH: No. At 55 I will retire so my wife and I can enjoy a bit of peace and quiet together.

JC: I'll go on as long as I enjoy the work. It's a question of how old you feel! Managing Holland at the World Cup finals next year, if the team qualify, will be a great challenge. Players like Gullit and Van Basten will be playing in their last big event. You can really motivate a team in circumstances like that. But what would I do in the other 10 months of the year as a national manager? No, that's not my idea of a proper job.

JH: I agree. I can't imagine how you cope when you manage a team playing only six or seven times a year. You can't achieve anything with the players like that.

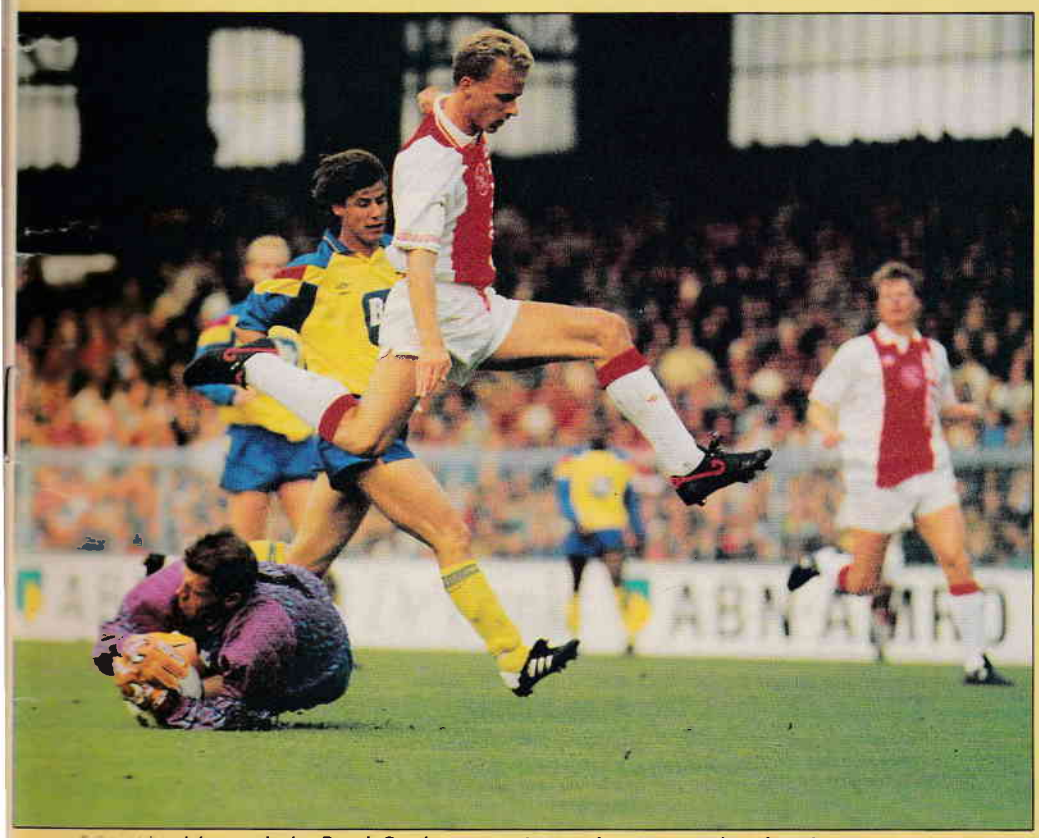
WS: On the subject of coaches, both of you worked — with differing success — under Hennes Weisweiler, didn't you?

JH: Johan played for Weisweiler at Barcelona for a short time. I understand things didn't go smoothly.

JC: Quite. My experience of working with Weisweiler was a salutary one. It's only with time that I understood how one must adapt to different attitudes and mental approaches. The problem with Weisweiler was that he wanted us to play "German football."

JH: I have learned the same lesson. You cannot impose you own will 100 per cent. You must take and work with what's positive, try to change the negative but, above all, you must be true to your own philosophy of how football should be played. Look at Johan: in five years he totally renovated Barcelona's squad and system.

JC: When I came to Nou Camp as coach, we had a first-team squad of 35 players. Today it's 19 — and two of those are reserves for Zubizarreta. But, going back to Weisweiler, it wasn't all negative: I learned from him the importance of always taking the game forward with a lot of one-touch combination play.



Internazionale's new signing Dennis Bergkamp . . . not as good as some people make out.

PRO-FILES

JOHAN CRUYFF
BARCELONA

Born: April 25, 1947 in Amsterdam

Playing career: 1964-73 Ajax Amsterdam; 1973-78 Barcelona; 1979 Los Angeles Aztecs; 1980-81 Washington Diplomats; 1981 Levante (Spa); 1981-83 Ajax; 1983-84 Feyenoord.

Coaching career: 1985-88 Ajax; from 1988 Barcelona.

HONOURS

Player: 48 internationals for Holland (33 goals), nine Dutch Championships, six Dutch Cups, one Spanish Championship, one Spanish Cup, three Champions' Cups, three times European Footballer of the Year.

Coach: two Dutch Cups, one Champions' Cup, two Cup-winners' Cups, two Spanish Championships, one Spanish Cup.

JUPP HEYNCKES
ATHLETIC BILBAO

Born: May 9, 1945 in Monchengladbach

Playing career: 1956-62 Grun-Weiss Holt; 1962-67 Borussia Mg; 1967-70 Hannover 96; 1970-78 Borussia Mg.

Coaching career: 1979-87 Borussia Mg; 1987-91 Bayern Munich; from 1992 Athletic Bilbao.

HONOURS

Player: 39 internationals for Germany (14 goals), one European Championship, four German Championships, one German Cup.

Coach: two German Championships.

WS: What qualities do you look for in a player?

JC: Technical ability. That's a very important guide to a player's psychology. If a player knows he's good then I know he has a mental strength with which I can work. When I signed the midfielder Eusebio, he was a reserve at Atletico Madrid. But I gauged his potential from his technique. That's vital. In our scheme of things, WE must have the ball and control it. My ideal football is 70 per cent technical and 30 per cent physical. There's too much running about in football today.

JH: To succeed at international level you need players who are mentally well-adjusted. You can tell a lot about players from their body language out on the pitch. But the attitude of the trainer is very important. Do not underestimate it. For example, Barcelona would play very differently if Johan were not the coach.

JC: Most coaches worry too much. The ideal would be, for everyone to play attacking football. After all, only one team can be the champions. Remember the German team who won the 1974 World Cup. The right wing was Grabowski. Now who plays in that role?

JH: Someone who runs forward and runs back.

JC: Exactly. A runner. Not a footballer. That's where the game has gone. Why have they been scoring so many goals in Italy this season?

JH: Because the Italians are changing their approach away from the old defensive tactics.

JC: That's one reason. But the other is that their defenders' lack of technical ability has been exposed now they can't tap the ball back to the goalkeeper all the time. That's the difference between Milan and Juventus. It's not that Baggio and Vialli are any less talented than Van Basten. It's because three of Milan's four defenders can play much better football than the Juventus defenders.

JH: You play that way at Barcelona: you start playing football right from the back.

JC: How many technically adept defenders are in the German national team?

JH: We play Reuter, Kohler, Buchwald and Helmer but which of those has outstanding technical ability?

JC: Basic technique is essential. We don't concentrate enough on improving it. You've got to start with the youth teams. I'd insist on playing with three defenders and three forwards. Always one against one. That's the way to encourage individual enterprise . . . in football.

THE KEIR RADNEDGE COMMENTARY

FA correct to use authority in Barmby row

THE Football Association were absolutely right insisting on taking Nick Barmby with them to Australia for the World Youth Cup.

I would go even further. The FA should have been even more demanding.

Instead of setting a self-imposed limit of one first-team player per club, if necessary, they should have insisted on full selection rights.

At the end of the day we are talking about authority. In football that starts with FIFA, devolves upon the continental confederations followed by the national associations and then — and only then — to the clubs. All stack up the football pyramid.

The FA have never had a better opportunity than over the past year to exert their authority over the English game, to impose a unity of purpose in which all elements unite.

The first hiss of escaping steam was heard when the clubs hijacked the Premier League concept; the World Youth Cup compromise came dangerously close to being a second.

I understand, of course, why Tottenham did not want to release Nick Barmby. They faced an awkward and important FA Cup tie at Manchester City (more of which, elsewhere).

I understand rather less the complaints from elsewhere in the domestic game about the World Youth Cup. Chelsea chairman Ken Bates expressed a view decrying the value of such events.

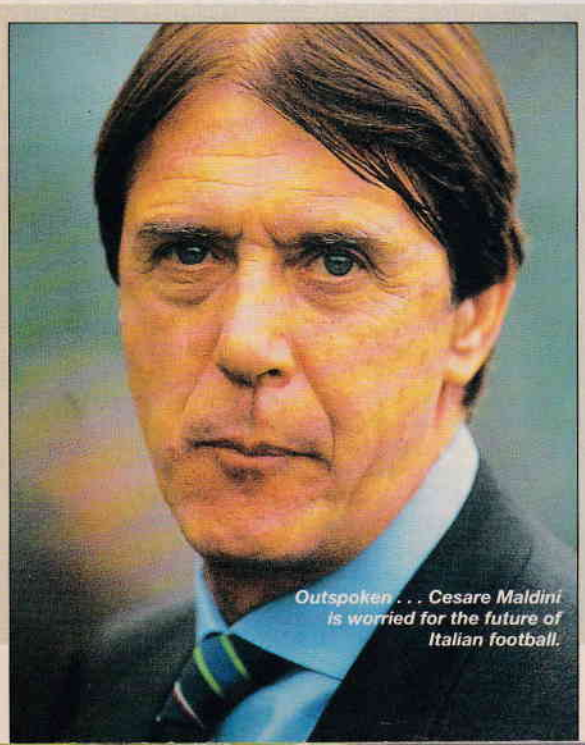
But just look at the quality of the graduates from past World Youth Cups. Look at their achievements in the senior game. Look at the millions their enhanced prowess has raised for their clubs in transfer fees.

Sending English players to the World Youth Cup is an investment in their talent which will be repaid in the years ahead both on the pitch and in the balance sheet.

Is this not, after all, the language the Premier League chairmen understand?

In demand . . . Tottenham's teenage striker Nick Barmby.

MALDINI'S MOAN



Outspoken . . . Cesare Maldini is worried for the future of Italian football.

CESARE MALDINI was a most elegant sweeper. Looking through the record books, it's remarkable that he won only 16 caps for Italy in the 1960s.

His son, Paolo, still only 24, has won three times as many caps already as his father and even, at his tender age, has emulated him in captaining the Azzurri.

But it is not so much the dynasty element which lends weight to the words of the elder Maldini so much as his present appointment as manager of Italy's under-21 team.

Maldini senior believes the "overflow" system, by which imports even push young Italian hopefuls out of their place in the stands on match days, is inflicting irreparable damage on the long-term health of the Italian national team and Italian football in general.

FIFA's new club committee is grappling with this among other problems. My feeling is that workable restrictions have been rendered impossible by European Community freedom of labour legislation.

But that does not detract from the significance of Maldini's words in the wake of Italy's 2-0 defeat by Portugal in a European under-21 qualifier.

He said: "At youth level, our football is getting worse. We don't have the players any more. The increasing number of foreigners in our game means the opportunities for the youngsters are vanishing.

"Look at my under-21 side: only three of our players in Portugal are regulars in Serie A sides. All the others are either fed up on the subs' bench or playing in Serie B.

"They don't have the experience and they don't have the necessary match fitness to compete at international level. At the end, we were lucky to have lost only 2-0."

Italy won the last European under-21 title but Maldini dismisses that as a mere hiccup. He says: "We were fortunate. We had players who were playing top-class league football regularly. Now those days are gone."

CASHING IN, CRASHING OUT

WHEN Sepp Blatter, FIFA's general secretary, talks about a "mountain of debt" it's hard to take the subject seriously.

After all, we've been talking for years and years about clubs in the red, £5million here, £6 million there. It never added up.

But it was accepted as part and parcel of football. It was always there in the background but some fairy godmother always turned up with some magic wand.

First it was television money; then it was sponsorship; then it was more television money; then it was shirt ads; then it was still more TV money.

But in these recessionary times the well of eternal finance may be running dry.

Bologna, one of Italy's great old clubs, have been threatened with a bankruptcy petition from six of their own players, impatient at their pay cheques bouncing.

In France, Toulon saved themselves from bankruptcy last season only to face the threat again, with fewer players to sell to raise money.

In Spain, Espanol have warned that they may become the first club to go to the wall since the imposition, on the majority, of limited liability legislation.

While these financial upsets remain within national boundaries the damage is limited. The danger is that, in these days of greater international transfer involvement, collapse in one country could spark a domino reaction somewhere else entirely.

Look at the Italo-German confusion surrounding Argentine Sergio Zarate. Ancona bought him last summer from Germany's Nurnberg. But when they couldn't meet payments on the fee, Ancona loaned him back home to Velez Sarsfield to raise the cash . . . which, Nurnberg protest, they still have not seen.

In Germany, of course, the DFB auditors examine club accounts every spring. Clubs deep in debt are given three months to dig themselves out on pain of losing their professional licence — in reality, their existence.

Imagine if Nurnberg went bust because of Ancona . . . the fall-out in the German game.

You need only look at France over the years to see a game which has been in a state of financial make-believe. The likes of Marseille and Monaco and Paris Saint-Germain splash out on the famous players.

But Marseille had to sell Trevor Steven back to Rangers because of cash-flow problems, and Francois Omam Biyik and Rafael Martin Vazquez left after only a few months of this present season amid confusion over the weight of their pay packets.

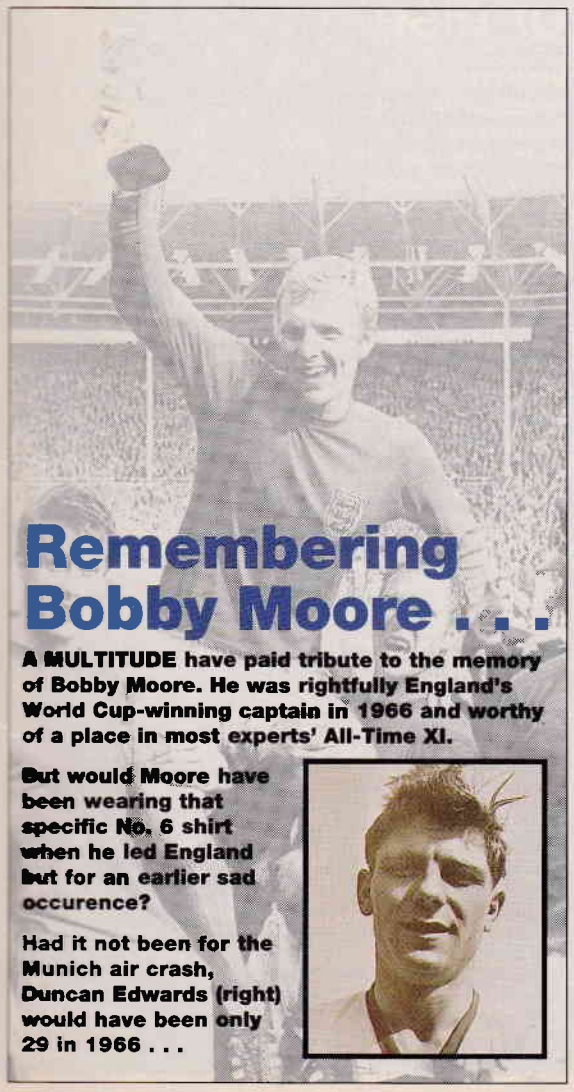
The French run a similar system to the Germans. But the protection it provides, I would suggest, has been questionable.

Just look at the record in 14 years between 1978 and 1992: no fewer than 24 clubs faced bankruptcy proceedings, including Marseille and Bordeaux; no fewer than six clubs went into operational bankruptcy; no fewer than 10 clubs finally went all the way through to bust.

Among them, sadly for all traditionalists and historians, were Reims, who played in the first Champions' Cup final.

No wonder FIFA are worrying about a mountain of debt. Whoever sets off an avalanche will bury much of the professional game as we know it today.

Out of the door . . . Rafael Martin Vasquez was sold to Real Madrid after only a short spell at Marseille.



Remembering Bobby Moore . . .

A MULTITUDE have paid tribute to the memory of Bobby Moore. He was rightfully England's World Cup-winning captain in 1966 and worthy of a place in most experts' All-Time XI.

But would Moore have been wearing that specific No. 6 shirt when he led England but for an earlier sad occurence?

Had it not been for the Munich air crash, Duncan Edwards (right) would have been only 29 in 1966 . . .

In trouble . . . two City fans are arrested at Maine Road.

FENCED IN

ENGLISH football took down the fences in shocked horror after the Hillsborough disaster. Such a reaction was appropriate in the circumstances.

Now, after Maine Road's FA Cup invasion, the fences may well go back up.

Too many people who should have known better had crowed and preened themselves on solving the hooligan problem. They sneered about crowd trouble in Holland and Germany and Italy. The English thought they had wiped out the irritant. Nothing of the sort.

Those who attend Premier and Football League games with their eyes open know that the problem never went away; merely, methods of controlling hooliganism improved immeasurably.

Fences may well have to go back up. This will not be a defeat. Merely recognition of reality.

Nothing foreign here

THE players' union has decided it's time to get tough with foreigners. That's an option we suggested long ago in these pages — long before the Bontcho Guentchev case.

But this is shutting the stable door after the horse has bolted.

Most of western Europe is now in the European Community and restrictions are illegal; much of Scandinavia will shortly join the EC, and restrictions will melt away; and eastern Europe will doubtless gain associate membership rights within the next few years.

In the meantime, relying on federation records and agents' faxes to check up on foreign players' credentials remains utterly unreliable.

Phoning *WORLD SOCCER* would be much simpler . . . and cheaper!

BERLUSCONI TO GET HIS EUROPEAN WAY

EXCLUSIVE by Keir Radnedge

THE grand dream of Milan president Silvio Berlusconi and his supporters is, at long last, coming true. The years-old vision of a European club league is set to become reality in little more than two years from now.

On April 21, in Geneva, UEFA president Lennart Johansson is to present his executive committee with the first serious proposals for such a league to open for business in season 1994-95.

Johansson's proposals have been widely leaked, which suggests UEFA's executive members are well aware of his ideas and broadly in favourof them.

The process of transforming the romantically popular Champions' Cup into the international club league which has been discussed for so long began in earnest two years ago.

That was when an extraordinary general meeting of UEFA's members voted to amend UEFA's statutes so that the European confederation could command every dot and comma of the necessary commercial arrangements with television and sponsors.

The outcome was the Champions League, currently in its first formal season and judged by UEFA as a success

Giants . . . PSV and Milan (above) are two of Europe's biggest clubs.

Dream . . . Berlusconi (left) could have his wish fulfilled.

Proposals . . . Johansson (below) will present the idea.

Super League launch set for 1994-95 — if UEFA back Johansson's new proposals

both from a sporting and commercial standpoint.

Now Johansson is preparing the ground for the next step which he considers the logical development for the European club competitions given the numbers of new nations knocking on UEFA's competitive door in the wake of the fragmentation of eastern Europe.

For 1994-95, Johansson envisages merging the Champions' Cup and the UEFA Cup. A 128-club entry would include representation from all UEFA's member nations with at least five clubs for the major nations such as Italy, Germany and Spain.

Representation and seedings would be based on the coefficient calculations currently in operation to arrange the UEFA Cup entry.

The first three rounds would be home and away knock-out and would take up the first half of the season — just like the UEFA Cup today. The 16 survivors would then be split into four groups of four teams with a geographical consideration so no country had two teams in one pool. The teams in each group would play each other home and away with the winners entering single-match semi-finals on neutral territory followed by a final, as now.

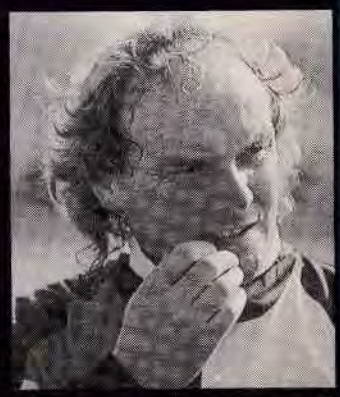
The Cup-winners' Cup would remain comparatively untouched. Johansson believes strongly that a competition for teams qualified on a cup basis should not be bent towards a league concept. The only change he envisaged would be converting the final into a home-and-away event as with the UEFA Cup Final.

Various proposals have been made over the years but none has ever been considered seriously by UEFA until now. Last autumn an English proposal suggested three geographically-split preliminary leagues feeding into a single European super league. The drawback to that scheme was in denying clubs in eastern and central Europe and Scandinavia any prospect of lucrative ties against the giants of Italy and Spain which help keep interest — and money — spinning.

Pressure had been building up over the last four years towards the creation of some sort of European league. Berlusconi, Milan's president, has made no secret of his belief that the future strength of the game lies with increasingly powerful international club competitions generating television and sponsorship income which could, in turn, subsidise the lesser fry.

Berlusconi's views — music to the ears of Real Madrid's Ramon Mendoza and Barcelona's Jose Luis Nunez — were also echoed recently by Uli Hoeness. Bayern Munich's general manager forecast an increase in club influence and diminution in national team concerns — a change of balance and emphasis for which European Community legislation is considered a catalyst.

'Beat Belgium or else'



EVERYTHING hinges on beating Belgium as far as Wales manager Terry Yorath (right) is concerned — and he's not talking solely about qualifying for the World Cup Finals.

Yorath sees his own future as well as that of his entire Welsh set-up finely balanced on success over Belgium on March 31.

"We have to beat them, it's as simple as that," he says. There won't be a second chance. The crunch game is at Cardiff Arms Park where we have never been beaten. We have enough quality players and great support which should see us through.

"Top professionals who play for their countries have an incomplete career if they do not appear in a World Cup finals tournament. Just look at the list of names in our squad — Neville Southall, Ian Rush, Mark Hughes, Dean Saunders, Gary Speed, Ryan Giggs. For some of them it will be their last chance to take part in the world's greatest soccer occasion.

"I played 59 times for Wales and never made it to the World Cup. I know what that means to me and I shall be stressing to the players that they have their own success at their feet. Many of them are world class and have the chance to prove it.

"For me this is the one that counts. My contract expires in November. Whether it will be renewed or if I want to stay will depend a great deal on the outcome of the Belgium game. If we don't win there is little chance of qualifying.

"Wales have come a long way, but we really need this success to keep that momentum going. In financial terms we are no better off now than we were three years ago. We need money to pump into the game so that we can expand our soccer education.

"If we don't get through this game and go on to reach the US we could be back to square one with no money, no interest and nobody prepared to take us seriously."

Yorath adds: "My orders for the game will be to stifle Scifo. Barry Horne did a good job on him before and I am sure he can again.

"I know that Manchester United boss Alex Ferguson likes Giggs to be held back, but he will be given his head for this one. His country needs him."

BERNARD BALE

Another first for Barcelona

BARCELONA collected yet another "first" when they beat Werder Bremen to land the Super Cup on a 3-2 aggregate.

The Catalans had lost the Super Cup play-offs in the past against Nottingham Forest and Aston Villa. But, the English jinx having been removed, they cruised safely through to a consolation prize for having been given notice as European champions last autumn by CSKA Moscow.

A late goal from veteran Klaus Allofs was all that stood between Barcelona and a first leg victory in Bremen. Then their task in the return was eased by the expulsion of Bremen's temperamental goalkeeper, Oliver Reck.

He was dismissed after half an hour for disputing a booking after handling outside the penalty area.

Two minutes later Hristo Stoichkov fired Barcelona ahead from a free-kick. Bremen deserved due credit for hitting back and levelling just before half-time when Wynton Rufer converted a penalty awarded against Barcelona skipper Andoni Zubizarreta for bringing down Dieter Eilts.

Barcelona, however, dominated the second half, taking play constantly into Bremen territory and wearing the Germans' resistance away.

Only three minutes after the break Jon Goikoetxea scored the decisive goal when Gundelach, Bremen's substitute keeper could only block, but not hold, a close-range drive from Stoichkov.

Elsewhere in Europe, Milan remained favourites to succeed Barcelona as kings of Europe when they beat FC Porto in Portugal, in Group B of the Champions League.

Jean-Pierre Papin, deputising with increasing authority for injured Marco Van Basten, scored a magnificent winner. The same night PSV Eindhoven lost much of their hope of regaining the European crown they won in 1988.

PSV crashed to a shock 3-1 home defeat by IFK Gothenburg, for whom Johnny Ekstrom scored two goals. Remarkable to think that he was turned down last autumn after trials with several English Premier and First Division clubs.

EUROPEAN SUPER CUP 1992

Feb 10 — Bremen — first leg
WERDER BREMEN 1 (K Allofs 87)
BARCELONA 1 (Salinas 37)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 40,000. **Ref:** Milton Nielsen (Den)
Bremen: Reck — Bockenfeld, Legat, Bratseth, Bode (Kohn 68), Borowka, Eilts, Votava, Hobsch (Allofs 77), Herzog, Neubarth.
Barcelona: Zubizarreta — Ferrer, Amor, Koeman, Nadal, Bakero (Beguiristain 66), Goikoetxea, Stoichkov, Salinas (Christiansen 83), Richard Witschge, Eusebio.

Mar 10 — Barcelona — second leg
BARCELONA 2 (Stoichkov 32, Goikoetxea 48)
WERDER BREMEN 1 (Rufer 41pen)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 60,000.
Barcelona: Zubizarreta — Ferre, Guardiola (Salinas), Koeman, Nadal, Bakero (Beguiristain), Eusebio, Amor, M Laudrup, Stoichkov, Goikoetxea.
Bremen: *Reck — Bratseth, Schaaf (Gundelach 30), Legat (Allofs), Borowka, Herzog, Wolter, Eilts, Bode, Hobsch, Rufer.
** Reck sent off, 31min.*

JONATHAN **SHALLARD** in Sydney

Holders Portugal fail in hat-trick bid

PORTUGAL's bid to achieve a unique World Youth Cup hat-trick ended after just two disastrous Group B matches in Australia.

First the Portuguese lost 1-0 to Germany, then they fell 2-1 to a Uruguayan team inspired by a two-goal performance from their coveted striker Fabian O'Neil. He struck the winner two minutes from time after outwitting Portuguese skipper Hugo Costa.

Many of the Portuguese players left Lang Park in tears, the result of their last match, against Ghana, academic.

O'Neil opened the scoring after nine minutes with a swerving free-kick through the wall from the edge of the penalty area.

Portugal equalised with their first goal of the finals in the 34th minute when Luis Cassama shot past goalkeeper Sergio Martinez from close range after a corner.

In the second half the brilliance of goalkeeper Paulo Costinha kept Portugal in the game. Then Costa, back after injury, committed the slip which spoiled all Costinha's good work. Costa lost control of the ball under pressure from O'Neil who slipped forward into the penalty area before shooting low past the diving Costinha. ● *Full report and details next month.*

San Marino prove a point

ENGLAND'S World Cup hopes received a lift, thanks to San Marino.

They held Turkey — England's next opponents — to a 0-0 draw in Serravalle.

The draw provided San Marino with their first point in senior international football after a run of 12 defeats in European Championship and World Cup qualifiers.

Ironically, the keeper who conceded 55 goals in those matches, Pierluigi Benedettini, had to be substituted early in the game with an injury.

England play Turkey on March 31 and will be hoping that the Turks' morale will be low after this upset.

Milan beaten . . . at last

Milan, unbeaten in 57 league matches, suffered their first competitive defeat in almost a year when they lost 2-0 to Roma in an Italian Cup semi-final, first leg.

Their last defeat was on April 14, 1992 when they lost 1-0 to Juventus at the same stage of the same competition.

Roberto Muzzi put Roma ahead after 12 minutes and Argentine World Cup forward Claudio Caniggia (left) added a second in the last minute to give Roma some hope of reaching the final.

EUROPEAN CUP RESULTS

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

March 3
GROUP A
BRUGGE 1 (Dziubinski 44)
RANGERS 1 (Huistra 72)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 19,000. **Ref:** Martin Navarrete (Spa)
Brugge: Verlinden — Cossey (Verspaille 80), Van der Elst, Verheyen, Borkelmans, Dziubinski, Creve (Renier 79), Querter, Staelens, Booy, Amokachi.
Rangers: Goram — Nisbet (Pressley 84), D Robertson, Murray, McPherson, Brown, Mikhailichenko, McCall, McCoist, Hateley, Huistra.

CSKA MOSCOW 1 (Faizulin 55)
MARSEILLE 1 (Pele 27)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 20,000 (in Berlin). **Ref:** Baldas (Ita)
CSKA: Plotnikov — Mamchour, Malyukov, Brystov, Kolotovkin, Antonovich, Minko (Karsakov 54), Bushmanov, Ivanov (Dudnik 46), Sergeyev, Faizulin.
Marseille: Barthez — Eydelie, Angloma, Casoni, Desailly, Di Meco, Deschamps, Sauzee, Pele, Boksic, Dobrovolski (Durand 58).

Group A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Marseille	3	1	2	0	6	3	4
Rangers	3	1	2	0	4	3	4
Brugge	3	1	1	1	2	4	3
CSKA Moscow	3	0	1	2	1	3	1

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

March 3
GROUP B
PSV 1 (Numan 7)
IFK GOTHENBURG 3 (Nilsson 19, Ekstrom 34, 44)
HT: 1-3. **Att:** 27,500. **Ref:** Burge (Wal)
PSV: Van Breukelen — Van Aerle, Van Tiggelen, Faber, Heintze, Popescu, Numan, Linskens (Vanenburg 46), Romario, Kieft, Hoekstra.
IFK: Ravelli — Johannsson, Bjorklund, Svensson, Kaamark, Eriksson, Rehn, Mild, Nilsson, Martinsson (Andersson 68), Ekstrom (Lindqvist 89).

FC PORTO 0
MILAN 1 (Papin 71)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 55,000. **Ref:** Schmidhuber (Ger)
FC Porto: Vitor Baia — Joao Pinto I, Fernando Couto, Aloisio, Jorge Costa, Jorge Couto (Domingos 68), Semedo, Toze, D Timofte, Kostadinov (Toni 78), Rui Jorge.
Milan: Rossi (Cudicini 87) — Tassotti, Maldini, Albertini, Costacurta, Baresi, Lentini, Boban, Papin, Gullit, Simone (Evani 79).

Group B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Milan	3	3	0	0	7	1	6
IFK Gothenburg	3	2	0	1	4	5	4
FC Porto	3	0	1	2	2	4	1
PSV Eindhoven	3	0	1	2	4	7	1

CUP-WINNERS' CUP

Quarter-finals, first legs
ANTWERP 0
STEAUA 0
Att: 9,500 (Mar 4). **Ref:** Zhuk (Bye)
Antwerp: Stojanovic — Kiekens, Brockaert, Taelmans, Smidts — Segers, Lehnhoff, Van Veirdeghem — Czerniatynski, Jakovljevic, Severeyns.
Steaua: Stingaciu — Bucur, Panait, Dobos, Gaica — Brodan, Vladoiu (Sburlea 63), Dumitrescu (Iftodi 82), Filipescu — Panduru, Stan.

FEYENOORD 0
MOSCOW SPARTAK 1
(Piatnitski 36)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 33,187 (March 2). **Ref:** Assenmacher (Ger)
Feyenoord: De Goey — Van Gobbel, Metgod (Obiku 66), De Wolf, Refos — Scholten, Bosz, Rob Witschge — Taument, Kiprich, Blinker.
Spartak: Cherchesov — Khlestov, *Chernishev, Onopko, Ivanov — Karpin (Pisarev 72), Lediakov, Piatnitski, Popov (Gaskin 89) — Radchenko, Bestchastnikh.
** Chernishev sent off, 80min.*

OLYMPIAKOS 1 (Vaitsis 64)
ATLETICO MADRID 1 (Moya 10)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 55,000 (Mar 4). **Ref:** Larsson (Swe)
Olympiakos: Mirtsos — Pahaturidis, Karataidis, Mitsibonas, Vlahos (Savides 62) — Tsaluhidis, Mavromatis, Tsiantakis, Batista — Karapialis, Vaitsis.
Atletico: Abel — Lopez, Toni, Juanito, Ferreira, Solozobal — Alfaro, Schuster, Alfredo (Tomas 85) — Moya, Garcia.

SPARTA PRAGUE 0
PARMA 0
Att: 24,900 (Mar 3). **Ref:** Weisser (Aus)
Sparta: Kouba — Hornak, Chovanec, Vrabec — Mistr, Frydek, P Medved (T Votava 82), Vonasek — Dvirnik, Siegl.
Parma: Ballotta — Pin, Grun, Minotti, Apolloni, A Di Chiara — Benarrivo, Pizzi, Cuoghi — Asprilla, Brolin.

UEFA CUP

Quarter-finals, first legs
AUXERRE 4 (Verlaat 17, Martins 43, Vahirua 82, Dutuel 89)
AJAX 2 (Pettersson 3, Vink 44)
HT: 2-2. **Att:** 18,000 (Mar 3). **Ref:** Pezzella (Ita)
Auxerre: Martini — Goma, Prunier (Bonalair 62), Verlaat, Mazzolini, Dutuel, Guerreiro, Martins, Cocard,Baticle (Laslandes 81), Vahirua.
Ajax: Menzo — Silooy, Blind, F De Boer, Alflen, Jonk (Kreek 56), Vink, Davids, Bergkamp, Pettersson, Overmars (Litmanen 86).

BENFICA 2 (Vitor Paneira 12, 76)
JUVENTUS 1 (Vialli 59pen)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 70,000 (Mar 4). **Ref:** Goethals (Bel).
Benfica: Silvino — Jose Carlos (Rui Aguas 64), Helder, Mozer, Veloso — Paulo Sousa, Vitor Paneira, Schwarz, Isaias — Joao Pinto II, Yuran (Pacheco 66).
Juventus: Peruzzi — Carrera, Julio Cesar, Kohler, Torricelli — Conte, Galia (Di Canio 52), Moller, Dino Baggio — Vialli (De Marchi 85), Roberto Baggio.

REAL MADRID 3 (Butragueno 30, Zamorano 36, Michel 89)
PARIS SG 1 (Ginola 47)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 50,000 (Mar 2). **Ref:** Elleray (Eng)
Madrid: Buyo — Ramis, Lasa, Sanchis, Nando, Milla (Llorente 59), Hierro,Michel, Luis Enrique, Butragueno (Esnaider 62), Zamorano.
Paris SG: Lama — Sassus (Llacer 64), Ricardo, *Roche, Colletier, Le Guen, Guerin, Fournier, Valdo, Ginola, Weah (Bravo 86).
** Roche sent off, 89min.*

ROMA 1 (Mihajlovic 66)
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 40,000 (Mar 2). **Ref:** Van der Ende (Hol).
Roma: Cervone — Garzya, Aldair, Benedetti, Piacentini -Mihajlovic, *Bonacina, Giannini (Tempestelli 87), Hassler -Carnevale (Muzzi 77), Rizzitelli.
** Bonacina sent off*
Dortmund: Klos — Kutowski, Zelic, Poschner, Schmidt -Schulz, Reuter, Zorc, Rummenigge — Chapuisat, Povlsen (Sippel 82).

American Airlines®

DALLAS CUP® XIV

HAMMERS go fo

WHILE West Ham United are playing for vital First Division promotion points against Birmingham, Southend and Leicester, their youth team will be in Texas defending the magnificent American Airlines Dallas Cup trophy they won last year.

That success by the young Hammers, sponsored by *WORLD SOCCER*, lifted some of the gloom from a club already heading for relegation.

Their 2-1 victory over Tahuichi of Bolivia, rated as one of the finest and most powerful youth teams in the world, earned the kids from Upton Park glowing tributes from Texas soccer fans and opponents alike.

This year West Ham will face tougher opposition in the Under-19 Super Group Division of the Dallas Cup.

Apart from Tahuichi, there's Real Madrid (Spain), Boca Juniors (Argentina), Fiorentina (Italy), Club Nacional (Uruguay), CD Guadalajara (Mexico), FC Tatran Presov (Slovakia), LD Alajuelense (Costa Rica), Mississauga (Canada), Hornets (Dallas), Alcons (Trinidad and Tobago), Texas Longhorns (Dallas) and, wait for it Arsenal. Not from Highbury, but California. And, yes, they do play in the familiar Arsenal strip.

Although the opposition will be formidable, West Ham can look forward to a warm welcome in Dallas. Last year their

West Ham United Youth Dallas Cup squad 1993

Back row *(l to r)*:
Darren Currie (midfield), Danny Shipp (striker), Jamie Victory (central defender), Tony Richards (striker), Martin Peat (goalkeeper), Gary Waters (central defender), Chris Rose (striker), Michael Basham (central defender), Danny Williamson (midfield).

Front row *(l to r)*:
Jason Geraghty (midfield), Roy Johnson (defender), Paul Whitmarsh (striker), John Bates (defender), Matt Holland (midfield), Scott Canham (midfield), Steven Blaney (defender).

● ***Photo by Steve Bacon.***

20-strong party last year, who included coaches Tony Carr and Paul Hilton, were a credit to themselves, the club and England both on and off the field.

"The Hammers made a tremendous impression on everyone," says Dallas Cup Executive Director Bill Stroube.

"They played with a great deal of style and commitment, while making many friends.

"The players stayed with families in Dallas and established close ties. In fact, those players returning with the team to defend the trophy will be staying with the same hosts.

REAL MADRID

double take-away

"West Ham are certain of a big cheer when they walk out at the Highlands Stadium for the opening ceremony on Sunday April 4 and a great deal of local support when they play their first game, although it is against Texans 74 from right here in Dallas.

"Although worldwide recognition for the Dallas Cup is always based on the Super Group, we must remember the tournament provides premier competition for boys and girls from Under-12 to Under-19.

"This year 24 teams from 13 countries will compete in the Super Group and 166 teams from 22 countries and 21 States will feature in over 280 games."

For one week the whole world of soccer certainly will be in Dallas . . . and so will ***WORLD SOCCER!***

AC FIORENTINA

BOCA JUNIORS

Top refs meet in Dallas

Leading referees from over 30 countries regularly take part in The American Airlines Dallas Cup Tournament. This year, from April 2-5 they will be joined by hundreds more officials from around the world who will attend the Soccer America International Referees Seminar.

Conducted by FIFA instructor and *WORLD SOCCER* contributor Stan Lover from France and hosted by the United States Soccer Federation Referee Committee, the subject of the Seminar will be World Cup Match Control — Past, Present and Future.

Rather appropriate with the US World Cup Finals just a year away. Speakers will include well-known FIFA World Cup referees Abraham Klein (Israel), Jose Ramiz Wright (Brazil), Bob Valentine (Scotland), Alan Snoddy (Northern Ireland) and Mario Rubio Vasquez (Mexico).

There is no other Referee Forum like it in the world . . . and *WORLD SOCCER* will be there!

CLUB NACIONAL

The case of the ruffled rivals

Inter's double deal upsets the opposition

ONE Saturday evening last February, Ernesto Pellegrini, president of Internazionale, took a phone call from Silvio Berlusconi, president of Milan, the club who have made life a misery for Inter fans over the past two seasons.

"Is it true that Juventus have definitely signed Dennis Bergkamp from Ajax?" Berlusconi asked.

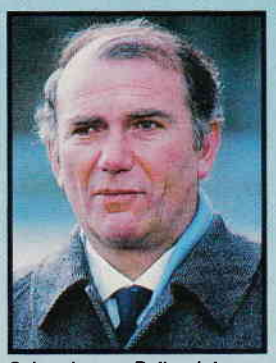
"Wouldn't know anything about it," replied the canny Pellegrini.

Just 48 hours later, Pellegrini was holding a media conference to announce that Inter had concluded the signing of two Dutchmen, Bergkamp and clubmate Wim Jonk, for the 1993-94 season.

The total cost of the operation, according to Pellegrini, was $15.5 million dollars, with Bergkamp priced at $9.5 and Jonk at $6. In addition they will be on the handsome annual salaries: a million dollars to Bergkamp, $600,000 to Jonk.

So the first market coup of the year has been pulled off by Inter, who not only outsmarted their dominant city rivals for once but also put one over Juventus. Two rivals ruffled for the price of one operation.

Pellegrini made no secret of his delight, pointing out that he had travelled to Amsterdam on the previous weekend to sign the players and thus conclude a year-long negotiation which Inter had managed to keep secret (a remarkable achievment in itself).



Scheming . . . Pellegrini.

He added, not without a sense of malicious delight, that the fact that nearly every commentator in Holland and Italy had thought Bergkamp was on his way to Juventus had helped him work in silence.

Pellegrini is right to be pleased, no doubt, but one cannot help thinking that his latest market move owes much to the pressure exerted on Milan's "No. 2" club by Berlusconi's squad.

First and foremost, the fanfare attached to the signing implied a subtext: "Sorry, Inter fans, we cannot win the title this season, but by way of compensation look what a nice surprise we have in store for next year."

Imitation, too, might well be the sincerest form of flattery. Almost exactly six years ago, Berlusconi flew to Amsterdam to land an important pair of Dutch signatures, those of Ruud Gullit and Marco Van Basten.

The rest is history, of course, but one wonders if, deep down, Inter are not desperately hoping that they too have struck Dutch gold.

Juventus are the club who emerge worst from the Bergkamp-Jonk deal. At a time when the team, despite Moller, Platt, Baggio and Vialli ,were playing badly and sinking down the table to beyond the UEFA Cup qualification zone, the news that the "Old Lady" had been beaten to another possible purchase did not help the image.

While club officials were busy telling everyone that the figures quoted by Inter were false, because Juventus had previously offered Bergkamp and Ajax almost exactly double the alleged purchase and salary figures, one could only suspect an attack of sour grapes.

In truth, little seems to be going well for Juventus this year. Having spent around $40 million dollars to put together a side capable of challenging Milan, they are now struggling to stay in the UEFA Cup race , and their plans for next season, by order of club owners FIAT, will have to be modest.

So will the ambitions of Claudio Maselli, the third coach to sit in the hot seat at Genoa this season.

Maselli took over from "Gigi" Maifredi after Genoa's 3-2 home defeat by Lazio on a day marred by a crowd invasion of the pitch and by Paul Gascoigne's dismissal.

Maifredi had been in charge only since November and for only 12 League games, with three won and two drawn. Not an impressive record from Maifredi, but then as I pointed out when he took over, his qualifications for the job were hardly impeccable.

Until now, Maifredi's main claim to managerial fame had been that of guiding Juventus down the table and out of European competition for the first time in 28 years, two seasons ago.

Replacement Masselli, coach of the Genoa youth team, knows the environment.

When he was finally located in a restaurant on the day of his appointment, he said: "If I have been called in, it would appear that the sea is a bit choppy.

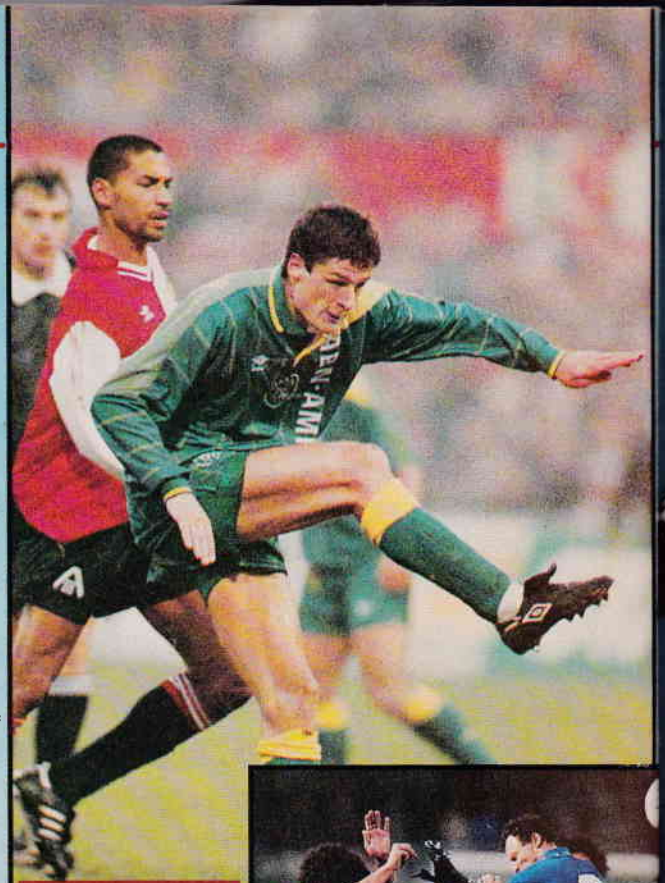
"On the other hand, here in Genoa the sea is always a bit rough."

Another intriguing managerial appointment is that of Azeglio Vicini, who coached Italy from 1986 to 1991, by Second Division Cesena, in place of Gaetano Salvemini.

For much of the past year Vicini's name had been associated with prestigious clubs such as Roma, Napoli, Sampdoria and even Inter, but there were no definite offers.

So he settled for Cesena, a club he knows well. He spends nearly all his summers on the nearby Adriatic coast at Cesenatico and when the offer came he could not resist.

PADDY AGNEW



Signing . . . Wim Jonk (above) has joined Internazionale.

Stretching . . . Pinto and Vierchowod (6) during the Portugal v Italy international.

Scoring . . . Dino Baggio.

Sacchi smiles again

NATIONAL coach Arrigo Sacchi finally has something to smile about.

Italy's 3-1 win in Portugal produced a lot of enthusiasm as well as virtually wrapping up a place in the 1994 World Cup. The scoreline sounds good, yet the Italians were flattered.

They scored with their first attack, when Roberto Baggio got on to a fine through pass from Paolo Maldini, and a second came soon afterwards from the in-form Pier-Luigi Casiraghi.

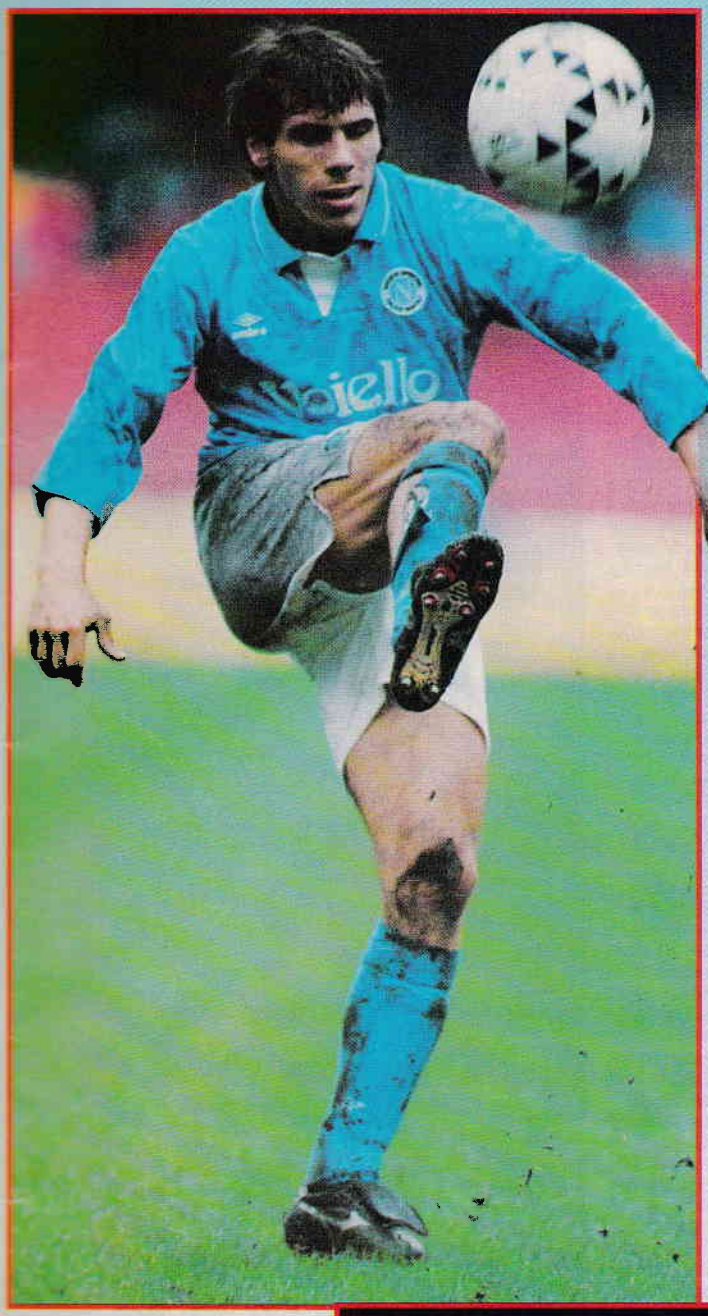
Then, for a period in the second half after a goal from Fernando Couto that should have been disallowed for handling and an unfair challenge on the keeper, Italy once more looked like the unsure side they have been for nearly all Sacchi's period in charge.

Just when an equaliser seemed probable, Dino Baggio popped up to pot a goal from long range.

Do not hold your breath until Dino repeats this feat. And do not hang around waiting for Italy to provide a thoroughly convincing performance.

AFTER DIEGO . . .

BUILT-UP ZOLA TAKES THE BISCUIT



Sharpening . . . Zola hones his skills in training (above).

Speeding . . . Zola in action during Italy's 2-0 defeat of Cyprus last December (right).

NAMES of top players from Sardinia hardly roll off the tongue. Yet according to the holiday isle's inhabitants, Gianfranco Zola's rise to prominence more than compensates for that.

In three years midfielder Zola has left behind his semi-pro roots and earned international acclaim.

The day that changed Zola's life was in April 1989, when Napoli's then general manager, Luciano Moggi, was perched among the crowd to watch Torres take on Casertana in a Fourth Division fixture.

Moggi's presence owed everything to his Torres counterpart, Valentino Barbanera (Blackbeard!), who had invited him to the northern town of Sassari to see a player he believed merited a more flattering stage.

Barbanera was right. Barely two months passed before Zola was whisked off to the mainland.

Gianfranco Zola was born in Oliena, in the north-east of Sardinia, on July 5, 1966. In 1980, aged 13, his talent was spotted by the coach of his hometown club, Giovanni Maria Mele, who promptly enlisted Zola for the youth team in the regional boys' league.

"I wasn't wrong about him 12 years ago," says Mele.

"He was only tiny, but enormously gifted — a real little champion."

The modern game demands physical stature, so an arduous training regime was devised for Zola, who was kept at it long after his team-mates were showered and dressed.

"I placed my trust in Nardino Masu, an ex-Olympian and coach of the national weightlifting team," says Mele.

"Gianfranco worked incredibly hard with Masu, although the workouts would often reduce him to tears. I had to keep reminding him that he would play for Italy."

Zola joined a semi-pro outfit, Nuorese, in 1983, and went to nearby Torres three years later. He was called Merendina — mean-ing little snack — because of the incredible amount of biscuits and cola he would consume. Masu's schedule had enabled him to build a body large enough to contain the volume of junk food he craved.

In June 1989 Zola was transferred to Napoli for £300,000.

But the bed of roses contained a major thorn . . . Diego Maradona. His presence meant that the newcomer spent much of his time on the bench.

Zola, however, believes Maradona's presence helped his rapid progress. "I learned a great deal from Diego," he says. "To work so closely with the world's greatest player is an experience every player should share."

While Zola waited patiently for his chance, he watched his hero and learned to improve his game sufficiently to a point where a comparison could be made.

Still, the fairy tale might have taken an unpleasant twist had Napoli president Ferlaino accepted offers from Fiorentina and Lecce in 1990.

"I have to thank the president and my team-mates, who always helped me even when my departure seemed a certainty," Zola says.

"I always knew that in this profession there were highs and lows, but never gave in because I was sure that sooner or later my opportunity would come.

"I feel very comfortable in this city. I could stay for the rest of my career."

Zola's goals in his first full season in Serie A reached double figures, most of them spectacular. His brisk and nimble footwork, combined with accurate passing, have led fellow professionals to join the praise.

"Gianfranco is a very down to earth and cheerful young man," says his Brazilian team-mate, Antonio Careca.

"He has an excellent future. I've always maintained that given a run of five to six matches, he would secure a first-team place. He has the practical sense of an Italian and the technique of we South Americans."

Zola's rousing displays were rewarded with four international caps under Arrigo Sacchi. Despite players of the calibre of Baggio and Mancini currently blocking his path, he still dreams of a future with the Azzurri.

"I long for a regular place in the national team," he says. "I felt so proud following my debut. I never thought I would experience such immense satisfaction."

Napoli's encouraging fourth-place finish last term brought back the fans, but recent form has turned the club upside down and coach Claudio Ranieri, who did so much to restore Napoli's image, was dismissed after a procession of woeful results.

Ottavio Bianchi was recalled and is counting on Zola to shed some Sardinian sunlight.

Life has certainly changed for Zola. In his eyes, there will never be another Diego, but he feels that Napoli are improving.

"We all work for each other," he says. "But we still need to grow to reach the heights of Diego's era. Me in particular. He made this a truly great club. I haven't . . . yet."

RAY DELLA PIETRA

PRO-FILE

GIANFRANCO ZOLA

NAPOLI AND ITALY

Born: July 5, 1966, in Oliena, Sardinia.

Previous clubs: Nuorese, Torres.

International debut: November 13, 1991 v Norway in Genoa, drew 1-1.

International caps: 4 (0 goals)

At home at last — that's Papin

FOR a while, Milan's Jean-Pierre Papin wanted to go home to France. Now he is finally beginning to feel at home in Italy.

"For a minute, it was like I was back at Marseille," said Papin after scoring twice in Milan's 4-0 home victory over Sampdoria.

"The entire stadium was on its feet for me — the way it used to be when I scored at home at Marseille."

The Milan victory — the team's 16th of the season — stretched their lead over Internazionale to 10 points, and ended the last lingering doubt about the title's destination.

Papin was bought from Marseille for 14 billion lira ($11.5 million) in the summer. For him it looked like a positive move.

The fans were eager to see him alongside Dutch star Marco Van Basten. The only problem seemed to be in deciding which of the two would take penalty kicks.

Instead, after a few early-season starts, Papin often found himself on the bench or in the stands. Van Basten was his usual formidable self, scoring 12 goals in his first 12 matches. Meanwhile, Papin seemed unable to crack the star-studded Milan line-up, ceding his jersey to Ruud Gullit, Dejan Savicevic, or Zvonimir Boban, all just as anxious for playing time as he.

When Papin did play, he usually appeared out of step, unable to find his place in the high-powered Milan machine. The fans began to wonder.

"If I don't see some action, I'd prefer to go back to France," he told journalists in early winter. I didn't come here to watch."

In December, Van Basten suffered a knee injury keeping him out of action for at least four months. That put the responsibility for the Milan attack on Papin, and he has responded brilliantly. Including the "double" against Sampdoria, he scored five goals in three matches to bring his season's total to 11.

He also scored the winner in Milan's 1-0 Champions League victory away to FC Porto, striking a stunning 20-yard volley past Vitor Baia.

"At the beginning of the season, I had a difficult time," he said.

"I'm more relaxed now. And I understand that with all the players here we need to rotate in and out of the line-up."

Papin's first goal against Sampdoria was a jewel. Gianluigi Lentini drove down the left wing and chipped a low, bouncing cross. Papin dived flat out, with his head just inches away from Sampdoria stopper Des Walker's knees, and headed past Gianluca Pagliuca.

"Let's not talk about courage," said Papin, radiant in the locker room.

"This is my job. I do these things out of habit."

Papin claims he does not care about taking the team scoring title from Van Basten. But he does look forward to the Dutchman's return. "We will do great things together," he promised. "Great things.

"I've finally understood Milan. And Milan has understood me. Voila! The play goes on."

RINO **LANDA**

RESULTS

SERIE A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Milan	22	17	5	0	51	17	39
Inter	22	10	8	4	37	28	28
Torino	22	8	10	4	26	18	26
Lazio	22	9	7	6	43	33	25
Juventus	22	9	7	6	39	30	25
Atalanta	22	10	5	7	27	28	25
Cagliari	22	9	6	7	22	21	24
Sampdoria	22	8	7	7	35	34	23
Parma	22	9	5	8	25	25	23
Roma	22	7	8	7	26	22	22
Udinese	22	8	4	10	32	32	20
Naples	22	7	5	10	32	34	19
Foggia	22	6	7	9	25	36	19
Fiorentina	22	5	8	9	34	38	18
Brescia	22	5	7	10	18	28	17
Genoa	22	4	9	9	28	42	17
Ancona	22	5	4	13	31	47	14
Pescara	22	4	4	14	30	48	12

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

MIDWEEK

QUARTER-FINALS — 2ND LEG

AS ROMA 2 (Carnevale 10, Hassler 71 pen)
NAPOLI 0
Roma won 2-0 on agg.

MILAN 3 (Papin 5, 13, Gullit 36)
INTER 0
Milan won 3-0 on agg.

TORINO 3 (Luzardi 45 o.g., Casagrande 63, Sordo 76)
LAZIO 2 (Signori 86, Winter 88)
Torino won 5-4 on agg.

PARMA 1 (Brolin 38 pen)
JUVENTUS 1 (Moller 63)
Juventus won 3-2 on agg.

WEEKEND

ANCONA 2 (Agostini 45, 70 pen)
FIORENTINA 1 (Baiano 65). **Att:** 12,000.

ATALANTA 1 (Ganz 87)
MILAN 1 (Papin 86). **Att:** 31,000.

FOGGIA 0
AS ROMA 0. **Att:** 18,000.

PARMA 2 (Brolin 52 pen, Minotti 90)
TORINO 2 (Sergio 45, Mussi 89). **Att:** 22,000.

PESCARA 2 (Mendy 10, Borgonovo 42)
BRESCIA 0. **Att:** 16,000.

SAMPDORIA 2 (Buso 54, Serena 80)
UDINESE 0. **Att:** 27,000.

INTER 0
NAPOLI 0. **Att:** 40,000.

JUVENTUS 1 (Ravanelli 58)
GENOA 0. **Att:** 30,000.

CAGLIARI 2 (Cappioli 45, Firicano 60)
LAZIO 1 (Fuser 36). **Att:** 50,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

WEEKEND

PARMA 1 (Minotti 76)
BRESCIA 0. **Att:** 8,000.

CAGLIARI 2 (Cappioli 34, Oliveira 69)
ATALANTA 1 (Perrone 83). **Att:** 20,000.

FIORENTINA 2 (Batistuta 7, Carnasciali 93)
INTER 2 (Sosa 13, 7). **Att:** 36,200.

LAZIO 3 (Riedle 26, 86, Signori pen 69)
GENOA 2 (Padovano 23, Skhuravy 24). **Att:** 23,000.

MILAN 4 (Lentini 7, 70, Papin 28, 90)
SAMPDORIA 0. **Att:** 75,000.

NAPOLI 0
ANCONA 0. **Att:** 40,000.

AS ROMA 2 (Giannini 58, Hassler 71)
JUVENTUS 1 (R. Baggio 28). **Att:** 62,200.

TORINO 3 (Aguilera 5, Sordo 19, Casagrande 51)
PESCARA 1 (Nobile 23). **Att:** 18,000.

UDINESE 3 (Balbo 45 pen, 48, Desideri 8
FOGGIA 2 (Desideri 37 o.g., Kolyvanov 53
Att: 15,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 7

WEEKEND

ANCONA 0
GENOA 0. **Att:** 12,000.

ATALANTA 1 (Valentini 66)
INTER 1 (Manicone 72). **Att:** 35,000.

FOGGIA 0
BRESCIA 0. **Att:** 12,000.

JUVENTUS 4 (Di Canio 9, Platt 73, Ravanelli 73, Moller 87)
NAPOLI 3 (Zola 51, Ferrara 71, Fonse 79). **Att:** 35,000.

MILAN 2 (Savicevic 66, 89)
FIORENTINA 0. **Att:** 76,000.

PARMA 2 (Melli 16, 76)
LAZIO 1 (Riedle 87). **Att:** 23,610.

PESCARA 2 (Allegri 45, Dunga 56)
UDINESE 2 (Balbo 26, Kozminski 40). **Att:** 14,000.

ROMA 1 (Giannini 27)
CAGLIARI 1 (Cappioli 58). **Att:** 53,320

TORINO 1 (Poggi 72)
SAMPDORIA 0. **Att:** 28,000.

Roma's Mihajlovic tangles with Conte of Juventus.

Breezing along

FAIR stands the wind for France, you might say, after that comfortable victory in Tel Aviv. Mind you, before the match the climate of apprehension seemed somewhat excessive.

Israel, after all, are scarcely one of the great powers of European football, and as manager Shlomo Scharf remarked sadly after the match, they have suffered over the years from being obliged to play among the minnows of the Oceania group, thanks to the continuing opposition of the Arab countries.

Flying Basque . . . Lizarazu in action against Israel.

Still, the French team did credit to new manager Gerard Houllier, who had had such a difficult beginning.

Laurent Blanc scored a couple of goals in his old raiding style, and Jean-Pierre Papin had an excellent game, returning to Milan full of the joys of Spring, although it meant arriving back in Europe in the small hours.

Papin, curiously enough, did not score, but he was as delighted with his own performance as was Houllier, who said he had become a leader. Papin paid tribute to Italian football in which, he said, he thought his game had improved.

Houllier talked of the centre-forward's "ferocious will to win" and compared his influence with that of Michel Platini.

"The Italian experience is showing itself to be fundamentally important for our most representative player."

Papin was flown by private plane to Tel Aviv after being given permission to turn out in the League for Milan. Understandably, perhaps. Manchester United were none too pleased that the same privilege was not granted to Eric Cantona, who was clearly missed when Sheffield United put his club out of the Cup.

Cantona got the first goal against Israel, exploiting a cross from the flying Basque, Bixente Lizarazu of Bordeaux, playing only his second international but clearly there to stay now that Manuel Amoros has gone into eclipse.

National team do Houllier credit

Houllier, picking up the pieces after the sad anti-climax in Sweden last summer, is not afraid to launch new talent.

There were two debutants at the start in Tel Aviv, Paris Saint-Germain midfielder Paul Le Guen and his team-mate, goalkeeper Bernard Lama. Then a third fresh cap, the Nantes attacker Patrice Loko, went on as a substitute.

France began with a 4-3-3 formation, but by the end it was 4-4-2.

Bruno Martini, goalkeeper for three years, dropped in favour of Lama in Israel, was inevitably disappointed. Houllier told him he would not be playing even before pre-match training began. That, he said nobly, gave Lama a chance to reach an understanding with the defence.

Then Martini also had to digest the announcement by Houllier, before a ball had been kicked in Tel Aviv, that Lama would play the next two games, against Austria and Sweden, as well. Somewhat strange when you consider that you never can tell how any club player is going to fare in his first international, least of all a goalkeeper.

Maybe it was Houllier's way of giving and showing confidence in his new keeper, but he was running a risk.

Perhaps he still is.

Blanc wants to go back to Italy, but seems more likely, if and when he leaves Nimes, to join Marseille. He was glad to be playing sweeper again, in Israel. Last August, when France lost embarrassingly in Paris to Brazil, he was used in midfield where, he says, he did not at that point have the physical condition to play.

"I know that my place is that of libero," he insists. "It will be like that to the end of my career."

It's the easiest place to play, he says. Nobody marks you, you're always facing the play, and if you have an intelligent positional sense, it's all a breeze.

He feels that, as a foreign player, he was just settling down in his first season with Napoli; that if many goals were conceded, then many were scored. This season, he is sure, he would have been able to give of his best. But as we all know, time and Italian football wait for no man.

So, will it be Marseille? Why should he not be there now, when it was widely felt they would sign him? Blanc says he doesn't know.

Things seemed virtually signed and sealed. The clubs had agreed. But Napoli owed Blanc money. While he was wrangling with them about it, Marseille slipped out of sight. PSG then seemed to come into it, but that did not happen, either.

Monaco, like Portugal, now have clever little Rui Barros back. The irony being that when the Portuguese team manager, Carlos Queiros, called him up for the recent friendly at home to Norway, a dull draw, the Monaco boss Arsene Wenger was furious.

Understandably, because Rui Barros, after his operations, had not played for months.

Fortunately, when he went on as a substitute against Norway, he not only survived but did well; and back he went into a Monaco team who had surely missed him, despite keeping pace with the leaders.

ANDRE **DUCLOS**

RESULTS

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Monaco	27	15	7	5	37	15	37
Marseille	27	15	7	5	48	28	37
Paris SG	27	13	9	5	46	20	35
Bordeaux	27	13	9	5	30	16	35
Nantes	27	13	8	6	40	25	34
St Etienne	27	10	11	6	22	15	31
Strasbourg	27	9	12	6	43	37	30
Auxerre	27	12	5	10	38	31	29
Sochaux	27	11	6	10	31	38	28
Lyon	27	7	13	7	29	27	27
Metz	27	8	10	9	31	33	26
Montpellier	27	9	7	11	24	28	25
Caen	27	9	6	12	39	38	24
Toulouse	27	5	14	8	23	29	24
Lens	27	5	13	9	20	34	23
Valenciennes	27	6	9	12	30	40	21
Lille	27	5	11	11	16	33	21
Le Havre	27	6	8	13	27	41	20
Nimes	27	2	13	12	25	48	17
Toulon	27	2	12	13	17	40	16

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

WEEKEND

MONACO 0
BORDEAUX 0
Att: 6,000.

LE HAVRE 1 (Roux 89)
MARSEILLE 3 (Boksic 26, Sauzee 55, Ferreri 87).
Att: 12,116.

PARIS SG 1 (Ginola 70)
MONTPELLIER 0.
Att: 24,572.

LENS 1 (El Hadaoui 31)
NANTES 0. **Att:** 19,000.

NIMES 1 (Cyprien 33 o.g.)
ST ETIENNE 1 (Moreau 12). **Att:** 10,467.

TOULON 0
STRASBOURG 2 (Thys 74 o.g., Keller 83). **Att:** 4,000.

AUXERRE 0
SOCHAUX 3 (Prat 50, 60, Clement 82). **Att:** 5,000.

LYON 2 (Flachez 10, Debbah 68)
VALENCIENNES 1 (Burruchaga 20). **Att:** 11,635.

TOULOUSE 1 (Pavon 64)
CAEN 1 (Dedeban 89). **Att:** 8,017.

METZ 0
LILLE 0. **Att:** 8,610.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

WEEKEND

MARSEILLE 2 (Voller 21, Sauzee 70)
LENS 0. **Att:** 25,000.

PARIS SG 0
TOULOUSE 0. **Att:** 23,000.

NANTES 1 (Vulic 19)
MONACO 0. **Att:** 20,000.

STRASBOURG 0
BORDEAUX 1 (Dugarry 24).
Att: 29,915.

ST ETIENNE 0
LE HAVRE 0. **Att:** 12,959.

LILLE 1 (N'Diaye 60)
AUXERRE 0. **Att:** 6,281.

MONTPELLIER 0
LYON 2 (Gava 34, Debbah 39).
Att: 8,000.

SOCHAUX 1 (D. Robert 17)
NIMES 1 (Monczuk 19). **Att:** 3,000.

VALENCIENNES 0
METZ 2 (Zitelli 11, Huysman 88).
Att: 8,303.

CAEN 2 (Germain 70, Paille 89)
TOULON 1 (Collot 26). **Att:** 7,597.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

WEEKEND

MONACO 1 (Gnako 32 pen)
MARSEILLE 0. **Att:** 18,000.

METZ 2 (Kubik 15 pen, 78 pen)
PARIS SG 1 (Ricardo 88). **Att:** 11,897.

BORDEAUX 3 (Marraud 50 o.g., Dogon 63, Vecchioni 90)
NANTES 0 **Att:** 30,915.

LYON 0
ST ETIENNE 2 (G. Passi 66, Kastendcuch 76 pen). **Att:** 39,883.

NIMES 2 (Cuciuffo 40, Monczuk 57)
STRASBOURG 6 (Hasek 3, Cobois 31, Bailis 42, Keshi 49, Keller 67, 71).
Att: 6,032.

AUXERRE 2 (Laslandes 11, 57)
MONTPELLIER 0. **Att:** 5,000.

TOULON 0
SOCHAUX 4 (Piton 20, Henry 59, Hadzibegic 65, Prat 74). **Att:** 3,000.

LE HAVRE 2 (Fournier 66 o.g., Moreau 85)
CAEN 3 (Paille 30, Gravelaine 46, Calderon 50). **Att:** 10,114.

TOULOUSE 1 (Ferrer 40)
VALENCIENNES 2 (Gohel 14, Corroyer 36). **Att:** 5,583.

LENS 0
LILLE 0. **Att:** 18,215.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 7

WEEKEND

FRENCH CUP — 1ST ROUND

TOULOUSE 1 (Dutuel 19 o.g.)
AUXERRE 0. **Att:** 3,913.

SOCHAUX 4 (Silvestre 54, 118, Caveglia 101, Robert 120)
ANGERS 1 (Mottin 67). **Att:** 2,902.

MONTPELLIER 3 (Der Zakarian 58, Divert 74, Moretti 75 o.g.)
LA ROCHE-SUR-YON 1 (Francois 50). **Att:** 2,000.

CRETEIL 2 (Adam 29, 35)
NIMES 1 (Monczuk 22). **Att:** 2,000.

EVRY 1 (Wohlgemuth 83)
ST ETIENNE 3 (Camara 50, Luhovy 60, Molnar 67). **Att:** 6,870.

CAEN 1 (Gravelaine 39 pen)
TOULON 0. **Att:** 4,797.

STRASBOURG 0
PARIS SG 1 (Weah 118). **Att:** 10,460.

BORDEAUX 1 (Valdeir 65)
NICE 0. **Att:** 7,000.

GUEUGNON 1 (Leuregans 53)
METZ 1 (Sechet 64). **Att:** 2,506.

MARSEILLE 3 (Ferreri 3, 90, Di Meco 73)
MARTIGUES 1 (Castro 17 pen).
Att: 13,000.

ROUEN 1 (Horlaville 77)
LILLE 0. **Att:** 7,749.

VALENCIENNES 2 (Gaillot 69, Dufresnes 77)
ANCENIS 0. **Att:** 4,410.

POITIERS 2 (Barraud 39 pen, Braniard 90)
MONACO 6 (Henrique 16, 46, 62, Djorkaeff 25, 84 pen, Perez 63). **Att:** 6,387.

LE TOUQUET 0
LE HAVRE 3 (Kana-Biyik 57, Mahut 80 pen, Roux 88 pen). **Att:** 1,433.

Nicolas Oudec of Nantes (centre) is sent flying by Monaco's Franck Dumas (left) and Jerome Gnako. Nantes won the game 1-0.

BROOKING TALKBACK

BBC Radio and TV commentator TREVOR BROOKING, the former England midfielder, answers your letters. . .

Leave our great game alone!

SIR — How many more changes do we have to endure before a halt is called? You and I don't want *our* game to be ruled by people who have no love or regard for a game that has been built up over 130 years, wanting apparently to ruin it within three or four years for a few extra dollars.

The heirachy and their cohorts in the United States are aiming for a cosy little compact game to sell through money men to the American public.

Unless Messrs Blatter and Havelange *et al* wake up quickly American money men will change *our* game beyond all recognition.

— JIM McDOUGALL, 2 Sandebrooke Walk, Burghfield Common, Reading, R97 HX.

● WITH the World Cup Finals less than 18 months away, the spotlight will gradually focus that much more on the US. As yet, there have been plenty of rumours as to possible chances but we must reserve judgement until a serious proposal comes forward. Sadly money seems to influence all sport these days, but the World Cup is such a unique setting, there would be an outcry if officials tried to tamper with the fundamental strengths of the game.

Too much praise for Italy

SIR — After reading the letter from Erik Olsson (February) I felt very much compelled to write concerning the amazing amount of praise heaped on Italy's Serie A.

I have found the Italian style of play not only very negative, but also highly boring. For a league packed full of world stars I would have thought the finished product would have been of a better, more exciting standard than the English game. England, Belgium, Germany and Holland produce a more exciting and watchable game by finding stars for the future from local backgrounds.

Spending a Sunday afternoon watching Serie A is barely better than spending a Sunday afternoon watching paint dry.

— WARREN J. GWILLYM, 1 Lumley Road, Cheam, Surrey, SM3 8NP.

● YOUR letter highlights how different supporters view the football on show. Your opinion figures very much in the minority on this occasion.

Widen the Club Cup's scope

SIR — I read with concern your reply to the proposal that the World Club Cup be competed for by clubs from all continents (February).

Your response was shortsighted and biased toward maintaining the current format, that is continuing to allow only European and South American clubs the exclusive right to be called world champions. If you displayed great vision for West Ham and England, it doesn't show up in your opinions about this subject. It certainly wasn't the most objective piece of football writing I've seen.

The only problem in holding such an event would be in increasing the duration: clubs would be away from domestic commitments for about a week and all those involved would have to be available at the tournament date.

Football has been thought by many to be democracy at its best, so to have a really meaningful World Club Cup we must include clubs from all corners of the globe. I do not believe this will "dampen the appeal" of the tournament, as you put it.

The World Cup is proof that countries with vastly contrasting football histories can produce some interesting spectacles.

— MARTIN ANDREWS, PO Box 71319, Ndola, Zambia.

● OF course the various styles of different clubs and countries are one of football's great appeals. But I stand by my original reply that any extension to the current format would make the fixture list of the top clubs too congested. They would have to be away from domestic commitments longer than the week you suggest and the demands from sponsors and TV would complicate matters even further. It also would be difficult to pick a convenient time in the calendar, when you consider how the playing seasons vary.

Only fair in a friendly

SIR — As I prepared to watch Serie A on Channel 4 today, I watched a show explaining some of the rules of soccer, produced by the Scottish Football Association. A banner read "Scottish football agrees FAIR PLAY PLEASE".

Perhaps this principle should have been applied when Scotland met Italy last November. Roberto Baggio ("I have never been kicked so much in my life") finished with two cracked ribs, and Di Chiara suffered a nasty head injury.

Both players were out for a number of weeks.

FAIR PLAY PLEASE? Only in friendlies . . .

— MARCO A. ALESSI, Accrington, England.

● DO I detect a slight affinity towards Italy? Mind you, I doubt if any team travel to Scotland without anticipating a certain physical commitment from the home side. I played against Italy on a few occasions and I wouldn't call their defenders meek! Naturally we all want the game to flow and that is why the referee's control is so important to the quality of play in matches. Sportsmanship and fair play may be in short supply at the moment, but at club level I think there is a responsibility on managers and coaches to give a lead to their players.

Tell Trevor . . .

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An unfair farce

SIR — Neville Southall has just been sent off for the second time this season, for a "deliberate" handball outside his area.

The banishing of goalkeepers for this act has reached unacceptable levels.

I suggest that a penalty goal be introduced (as a penalty try is awarded in rugby), in the event of a keeper handling outside the area. This would be a fairer means of punishment and would ensure that it would happen less often.

— *BILLY McELLIGOTT, Main Street, Liscarroll, Mallow, Co. Cork, Ireland.*

● THIS problem has caused more confusion than anything this season. I have seen red and yellow cards shown in a variety of incidents where referees have interpreted the rule differently. With videos now used at every match it would be a useful exercise if the FA compiled a list of all such offences and agreed a formula for referees to follow.

A Cowboy's idea

SIR — The introduction of the kick-in instead of the throw-in would ruin football.

We have already moved too far in the direction of set plays, particularly from free-kicks around the penalty area. Goals from this situation are now commonplace.

Football will continue down the dismal path to American football where only set plays exist.

My suggestion to Sepp Blatter is to resign, move to America and watch the Dallas Cowboys, not Milan and beautiful free-flowing football.

— *CHRIS EATON, 45 Gibbon Street, Plymouth, PL4 8UL.*

● I'M all for goals from free-kicks around the penalty area, but don't want to see this possible rule change start encouraging everyone to hump it goalwards from all parts of the pitch. Set-pieces have become an increasingly dominant feature of modern football, but if they increase even more then the entertainment value would deteriorate and jeopardise attendances. The free-flowing passing game of sides like Milan has to be the philosophy for youngsters to emulate.

Ultra nasty

SIR — Racist chanting, attacks and slogans in football stadiums all over Europe are seriously threatening the reputation of the game. The most alarming development is the setting-up of neo-nazi and other racist fan groups, the hardest of all the "Ultra" gangs.

It is ironic that such racism seems to be enjoying a renaissance when Fiorentina's change strip was scrapped for an optical illusion depicting, it seemed, swastikas on the front of their shirts.

It is the duty of all clubs to dissociate themselves from these racists. Sadly, the root of the problem lies deeper in the upbringing of these people in society.

— *SIMON JONES (17), Lytham St. Annes, Lancashire.*

● I TOTALLY agree that this despicable behaviour has no place in any football stadium in the World. Clubs must clamp down on it immediately as it is just another form of football hooliganism. These groups try to use the high media profile which football enjoys as a way to promote themselves. Most forms of misbehaviour stem from a lack of control and discipline when young, but it is virtually impossible to curb completely.

Wrong to limit foreigners

SIR — I fail to understand the popular attitude that leagues must somehow be protected from foreign influxes by setting limits of three foreigners per side.

The argument that domestic players will suffer from lack of match time and international sides will be weakened as a result just doesn't seem credible.

The limit on foreigners hurts everybody; the teams with a surplus of players they can't use, the great talents who consistently sit on the bench, and the fans who are deprived of watching these players in action (Papin and Platt as substitutes? That's obscene!) If the ban is lifted, everybody wins.

— *PRESTON DAVIS, South Beach, Miami, USA.*

● CERTAINLY the arguments regarding foreign players appear to be finding greater prominence. It seems just a case of finding the right balance, and making sure standards are maintained. Domestic players must benefit if they are playing with good foreign imports who can enhance their awareness and passing skills. Youngsters must be encouraged to work on basic techniques and they can only do that by seeing the best players display that talent at the top level. But I don't like the current situation where wealthy clubs buy virtually anyone who becomes available.

PENPALS

FOOTBALL fan seeks penpals writing French or English.
— *Kogno Mthieu Amevi, BP 13031 Lome, Togo.*

INTER and Barcelona fan, male, 15, seeks penfriends anywhere writing English or Spanish.
— *George Hall junior, PO Box 271, Heredia, Costa Rica, Central America.*

BRITISH girl, 17, living abroad, seeks footy-maniac penfriends anywhere, any age, writing English/French/Spanish.
— *Roxanne Liotta, Roma 880, 1636 Olivos, Pcia, Buenos Aires, Argentina.*

FOOTBALL fanatic, 26, would like to contact American, German English or Brazilian fans who plan to attend US Cup '93 in June.
— *Doss, PO Box 26901, West Haven, CT 06516, US.*

ORPHAN girl, 19, soccer mad, seeks penfriends m/f, worldwide.
— *Obeidu Bawah, PO Box 1442 Sunyana, Ghana.*

PENPALS wanted, m/f, who follow Milan, Inter, Juve, Liverpool or Marseille.
— *Thompson Ibe (18), University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria.*

FEMALE seeks penpals from Spain who follow Real Madrid. English/Spanish. All letters answered.
— *Tarith Lawrence, 12 Beachville Street, Eden Vale, Sunderland SR4 7NA, England.*

FOOTBALLER, in Ghanaian under-17 national team, seeks penpals.
— *Samuel Adothako, PO Box 172 Wenchi, Ghana.*

ARSENAL and Paris St. Germain fan seeks m/f penpals worldwide. George Weah is my favourite.
— *Abraham Zakpah, 126 Anson Road, London NW2 6AJ, England.*

BOY, 16, fond of football and writing, seeks penfriends in any country.
— *Narsh Inkoom, PO Box 238, Sunyani, Ghana.*

FOOTBALL fan, 25, wants penpals in Britain, pref. female.
— *Mike Chong, 160 Simonston Blvd., Thornhill, Ontario L3T 4M, Canada.*

LEEDS fan, 17, looking for similar to exchange letters.
— *Elasto Liyera, Olympus Consolidated Mines, PO Box AC 70, Ascot, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.*

PENPALS wanted, any age, m/f, soccer-lovers all.
— *Aubrey Mulekele, South Lunzu OEC, PO Box 634, Blantyre, Malawi.*

EXCHANGES

FRENCH supporter of Auxerre looking to exchange metal badges.
— *Arnaud Chappart, 29 Bois au Notaire, 45120 Girolles, France.*

MILAN fan will swap shirts, scarves, badges etc. With UK and European supporters.
— *Andrea Iacazzi, V. Bescia 21, 20010 Cornaredo (Mi) Italy.*

WANTED in exchange or to buy: tickets from World Cups, European Cups, internationals and domestic Cup Finals.
— *J.F Leblanc, Rue Nationale 22, 4300 Waremme, Belgium.*

POLISH collector of badges seeks to exchange with British fans.
— *Witold Sarnowski, vl. Zymirskiego 7m3, 04-045 Warszawa, Poland.*

FOOTBALL souvenirs from South Africa available in exchange, especially for Manchester United ties.
— *Ronnie Govender, 7 Carden Crescent, Porlock, Durban 4051, South Africa.*

STADIUM photo and postcards for exchange.
— *Fabrizio Pugi, Via Verga 27, 50047 Prato, Italy.*

MILAN, Barcelona and Man. United supporter seeks Italian and Spanish penfriends, writing Spanish or English.
— Art Kernan, 15 Knockchree Road, Downpatrick, Co. Down, N. Ireland BT30 6RP.

BANNERS, photos, programmes etc. wanted to swap.
— *Henry Miszczak, 22 Lipca 8/8, 21-040 Swidnik, Poland.*

SOCCER badges and other material available.
— *Jiri Stesl, Na Vysine 493, 403 31 Usti nad Labeur, Czechoslovakia.*

SOUVENIRS of all Italian teams for exchange worldwide.
— *Andrea Iacazzi, Via Brescia 21, 20010 Cornaredo (Mi), Italy.*

FRENCH supporter of Auxerre looking to exchange metal badges.
— Arnaud Chappart, 29 Bois au Notaire, 45120 Girolles, France.
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— J.F Leblanc, Rue Nationale 22, 4300 Waremme, Belgium.

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SHOOT ***Out every Tuesday***

In the air . . . Real Madrid's Villaroya leaps above Ribera of La Coruna to head clear (left).

In the face . . . Real's Prosinecki was elbowed and La Coruna's Albistegui was sent off (right).

Depor start to slide

THE UPSTARTS, Deportivo La Coruna, are passing their football exams but failing tests of character.

As a result they have lost their place at the top of the Spanish table to Real Madrid, and will do well to regain it.

At Bernabeu, Deportivo were good value for the 1-0 lead they obtained just after the half-hour, when Bebeto broke free on the right and crossed low for unmarked Claudio Barragan to shoot past Buyo.

Mauro Silvo was running the show in midfield. Fran was shutting down Michel's corridor of power on Real's right. Cast-off Adolfo Aldana was back in his old stadium with points to prove.

Serbian sweeper Miroslav Djukic was cutting out everything and neutralising Ivan Zamorano's aerial power.

During the interval, the clever money would have been invested on Super Depor's counter-attacking play seeing off Real.

Then Depor paid a heavy price for their lack of experience at the top. Within five minutes, the impetuous Claudio earned his second yellow card for a thoroughly unnecessary foul, and Zamorano soon equalised with a spectacular header.

When Mikel Lasa brought down Fran, Depor had a golden chance to regain the initiative but Bebeto, having missed his two previous penalties, chickened out and no alternative taker had been nominated. Finally Djukic hit a tame shot, comfortably saved by Buyo.

The Coruna coach, Arsenio Iglesias, then replaced Bebeto with defender Mariano in a demonstration of either safety-first thinking or downright lack of confidence. It all came undone when Prosinecki shaped up to take a free-kick not too far from the left-hand corner-flag.

Depor were so obsessed with packing their box that nobody was on duty outside the penalty area, where Michel greeted Prosinecki's sweetly-delivered pass with a fierce, low shot that was deflected into the roof of the net. This left Depor 2-1 down with ten men and no strikers.

The last-minute dismissal of defender Albistegui, for elbowing Prosinecki in the face, was symptomatic of the lack of maturity which cost them a match they could have won.

They allowed Real to take over at the top thanks to experience, grit and resilience under pressure, virtues which Depor have yet to acquire.

La Coruna then dropped a home point to Tenerife by conceding two goals in the last two minutes . . . not a good omen for their visit to the Barcelona side they hope to succeed as champions.

HRISTO STOICHKOV insists: "My family and I are very happy in Barcelona and I have no desire to leave."

But the rumours of an imminent move to Italy still rumble on, and if temperamental Bulgarian striker Stoichkov opts for the pots of lire at the end of the Italian rainbow, his tense relationship with Johan Cruff will be largely to blame.

Cruyff's allergy to superstars can be traced back through his spell at Ajax and his early skirmishing with Gary Lineker on arrival at Nou Camp.

Stoichkov and Michael Laudrup now bear the brunt of the criticism which Cruyff describes as part of his motivation programme aimed at procuring a third consecutive league title — a feat which has eluded Barcelona since League football began in 1928.

Laudrup and Stoichkov, the two crucial pieces in Cruyff's jigsaw, have grown accustomed to being needled via the manager's comments to the media. But signs of tension surfaced just before Christmas when Cruyff announced that Stoichkov, bitterly disappointed at being pipped by Marco Van Basten for the European Footballer of the Year

In the net . . . Stoichkov scores from a penalty during Barcelona's 7-2 win over Sporting Gijon.

Some are more equal . . .

award, has now "got his feet on the ground again".

Subsequent events and one goal in two months suggested that "Hitzo" looks a clumsier, more confused player with his feet on the ground than when, as the Spaniards say, his head is on the moon.

The simmerings were brought sharply to the boil when Barcelona visited tail-enders Burgos. First Stoichkov and then Laudrup had suffered severe bouts of flu.

Laudrup was rushed back into training, and played despite doctors' warnings that he was not fit for 90 minutes.

Stoichkov struck a penalty against a post and Laudrup, after being sick during the interval, lasted for only five more minutes before being substituted. Barcelona won 1-0, but Cruyff — far from making allowances for his coughing, spluttering stars — slammed them for below-par performances.

Stoichkov was slated for trying to place his penalty. "In such cold conditions," said Cruyff, "you have to try to burst the ball".

Laudrup was not spared. "Some people might think he's a fantastic player when he gives 90 per cent, but I will not accept less than 100 per cent."

This provoked mumblings in a dressing-room where any off-key statements from players are punished by heavy fines. Many felt that Hitzo needed a pat on the back rather than a knife in it, while Laudrup gently commented: "Never again will I agree to play if I am not fully fit.

"We are repeatedly told that we are all equal, not divided into first-teamers and reserves. If that is so, there is no problem in replacing me if I am unfit."

Cruyff retorted by claiming that Laudrup's four goals this season were insufficient. The net result was a 7-2 thrashing of Sporting Gijon, now threatened with relegation. Laudrup scored the first and third, Stoichkov the fifth and seventh.

He showed no signs of joy, having previously muttered that non-Dutchmen were victimised whereas Koeman and Witschge were spared.

Diego? plane crazy

WORLDWIDE tributes to the elegance and dignity of Bobby Moore's contribution to football coincided with the latest storm brewed in Diego Maradona's tannin-stained tea cup.

Having rowed with every club president from Fernando Consoli at Argentinos Juniors to Corrado Ferlaino at Napoli, Maradona's rift with Sevilla president Luis Cuervas was not an unexpected chapter in a well-thumbed script.

The threats and counter-threats of fines, walk-outs, moves to Juventus or Boca Juniors and contract revisions originated in a classic club-versus-country conflict generated by Maradona's recall to the Argentine national team.

He is costing his club £3m in wages and perks this season, and Cuervas was not happy about losing him. — especially when Maradona arrived in Buenos Aires moaning about Sevilla's bonus structure and criticising the president of the club who had reprieved him after the ban for drug abuse.

"Sevilla is not the last stop in my career," he told reporters, and promptly went on to welch on the compromise agreement with Cuervas whereby he would play in only one of Argentina's two games, against Brazil and Denmark.

The upshot was that he missed Sevilla's Copa del Rey match in Valencia, where they were beaten 2-0. After the Brazil game he and his Sevilla team-mate Diego Simeone did not return to Spain as agreed.

They stayed an extra day in Buenos Aires and arrived in Madrid at 6.30 am on the Sunday; flew to Vitoria Airport in an air taxi; travelled by road to Logrono, where they arrived four and a half hours before kick-off; and passed virtually unnoticed in Sevilla's 2-0 defeat by a Logrones side who had won only two previous games.

Then, in defiance of Sevilla's will, they embarked on a reverse process to go to Mar del Plata for the Denmark game.

In trouble . . . Maradona was fined £20,000 by Sevilla president Luis Cuervas (left).

This meant that Maradona had spent 26 hours out of 48 on various aircraft.

This also left the Sevilla club doctor to fret about Maradona's troublesome back problem which does not take kindly to this type of one-posture existence.

After extra time and penalties Maradona then flew back to Sevilla, apologised to Cuervas, agreed to pay a £20,000 fine for indiscipline, and was jeered by some of the crowd when he took the field for Sevilla's 3-1 win over Athletic Bilbao.

He then jumped on yet another plane and dragged his reluctant team-mates off to Turkey for one of the seven friendlies his contract allows him to organise for his own benefit.

Apart from clocking up enough air miles to win free seats to the moon and back, all this meant that in the 156 days since Maradona returned to active service he had played 31 matches.

GRAHAM **TURNER**

Touche . . .

Clemente keeps on changing

THE more the merrier seems to be Javier Clemente's motto as he plots Spain's World Cup qualifying campaign.

Coherent analysis of his preparations for the crucial game against the European champions in Denmark is impeded by the numerical stumbling block of 34 players, 13 of them previously uncapped, having been fielded in seven previous games.

Detectives searching for at least an identikit picture of a defined personality can follow a clear line of footprints towards Nou Camp.

Barcelona coach Johan Cruyff and his assistant, Charly Rexach, both reacted indignantly when nine of their players were summoned for action in the match against Lithuania in Seville, whereas Real Madrid supplied only the uncapped left-back Mikel Lasa.

Cruyff even alleged that a second cap for Thomas Christiansen, who had been playing for Barcelona's reserve side, was an insult to all First Division footballers.

Clemente retorted that if Cruyff did not consider Christiansen, now on loan to Gijon for the rest of the season, good enough for the first team, that was his problem.

He then confused the jury even further by denying vehemently that calling up nine players meant he was imitating Cruyff's playing system.

Those who like to stir a little politics into their sport then accused Clemente of subversively converting the Spanish national team into a Basque national team by selecting Zubizarreta, Alkorta, Guerrero, Salinas, Lasa, Goicoechea, Bakero and Beguiristain, all of whom have worn the colours of either Athletic Bilbao or Real Sociedad.

Clemente, having recently appointed fellow Basque Andoni Goicoechea as his assistant, reacted angrily by claiming that the real racists were the people who accused him of racism.

But the best witnesses for Clemente's defence were the nine points from six World Cup games, the 13 goals scored and none conceded.

The Spaniards invested £60,000 in filling the Benito Villamarin terraces, outlawed by FIFA's all-seater rule, with Arsenal-style murals depicting jubilant fans.

Three goals in the opening 17 minutes, from Cristobal, Bakero and Beguiristain, ended the match as a contest, and it was left to the Spanish subs to enliven the proceedings with two goals in the last four minutes.

Danish-born Christiansen opened his international account with a cheekily back-heeled goal which had the Andalusian fans chanting "Torero !" and Adolfo Aldana celebrated his debut by converting a pass from Christiansen.

GRAHAM **TURNER**

Red cards for the men in black

SPANISH refereeing has been savagely criticised by players, managers and media alike during recent months, to the extent of being placed squarely, if not fairly, at the top of a European blacklist.

The refs are naturally indignant but are not excelling themselves when it comes to polishing their own image . . . a friendly match between the regional Referees' Associations of Seville and Cordoba had to be abandoned after 78 minutes.

The referees had been fighting out an honourable 1-1 draw until the match official, Rodriguez Villalba, awarded Seville a penalty. This sparked off a bit of a dog-fight, and the tussling came to a head when a spectator ran on and butted the ref when he was trying to brandish the red card.

The assailant turned out to be another referee, Ramon Del Olmo, who had been designated to run a line 48 hours later at a rearranged First Division match between Barcelona and Oviedo. He was immediately replaced, without ifs or butts.

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RESULTS

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Barcelona	25	15	8	2	61	24	3
Real Madrid	25	17	4	4	48	19	3
La Coruna	25	15	7	3	46	19	3
Valencia	25	11	8	6	36	22	3
Tenerife	25	10	10	5	41	30	3
Atletico Madrid	24	11	7	6	37	28	2
Sevilla	25	11	6	8	33	31	2
Athletic Bilbao	25	12	3	10	35	34	2
Zaragoza	25	9	9	7	27	31	2
Espanol	25	8	9	8	32	32	2
Rayo Vallecano	25	7	10	8	29	31	2
Celta	25	7	9	9	16	19	2
Osasuna	25	8	6	11	29	29	2
Real Sociedad	25	9	4	12	31	43	2
Gijon	25	6	9	10	24	39	2
Oviedo	24	5	7	12	24	30	1
Albacete	25	5	6	14	31	43	1
Logrones	25	4	8	13	18	36	1
Cadiz	24	3	9	12	19	45	1
Burgos	24	2	7	15	17	49	1

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

WEEKEND

CADIZ 1 (Arteaga 34)
ESPANOL 0. **Att:** 7,000.

OVIEDO 4 (Carlos 13, 26, Jankovic 79, 88)
REAL ZARAGOZA 1 (Pardeza 82).
Att: 17,800.

RAYO VALLECANO 1 (Polster 76 pen)
ATHLETIC BILBAO 0
Att:16,000.

CELTA 2 (Goudeli 49, Vicente 92)
LOGRONES 0. **Att:** 20,000.

SEVILLA 2 (Suker 17, 54)
VALENCIA 2 (Roberto 20, Fernando 82). **Att:** 35,000.

OSASUNA 1 (Kosecki 30)
LA CORUNA 1 (Fran 45). **Att:** 18,576.

REAL SOCIEDAD 2 (Alkiza 44, Oseano 86)
ALBACETE 1 (Geli 61). **Att:** 13,000.

BARCELONA 1 (Koeman 12 pen)
ATLETICO MADRID 1 (Luis Garcia 58 pen). **Att:** 70,000.

REAL MADRID 0
GIJON 0. **Att:** 75,000.

TENERIFE 3 (Chano 37, Cesar 82, Ivertissia 91)
BURGOS 1 (Tendillo 48). **Att:** 21,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

MIDWEEK

CUP — 5th ROUND, 2ND LEG

OVIEDO 2 (Vinais 18, Carlos 64)
EXTRAMADURA 1 (Manuel 80).
Att: 4,500.
Oviedo won 4-1 on agg

REAL ZARAGOZA 3 (Higuera 18, Gay 23, Brehme 42 pen)
SPORTING GIJON 1 (Luis Sierra 90).
Att: 7,000.
Real Zaragoza won 3-2 on agg.

REAL SOCIEDAD 3 (Albiza 37, Kodro 55, Oceano 78 pen)
LERIDA 0.
Real Sociedad won 3-0 on agg.

VALENCIA 2 (Penev 51, Roberto 55)
SEVILLA 0. **Att:** 48,000.
Valencia won 2-0 on agg.

REAL MADRID 3 (Zamorano 35, 38, Alfonso 63)
MAJORCA 0. **Att:** 27,000.
Real Madrid won 3-2 on agg.

BARCELONA 6 (Beguiristain 4, Vucevic 21, 55, Ferrer 46, Salinas 50, Oscar 52)
ATLETICO MADRID 0. **Att:** 50,000.
Barcelona won 11-0 on agg.

VILLAREAL 2
JAEN 0.
Villareal won 2-1 on agg.

ALBACETE 2
VALLADOLID 1.
Valladolid won 4-3 on pens, agg: 2-2.

WEEKEND

REAL ZARAGOZA 2 (Gay 25, Poyet 60)
RAYO VALLECANO 0. **Att:** 18,000.

ESPANOL 2 (Llui 28, Escaich 82)
OVIEDO 0. **Att:** 24,000.

ATHLETIC BILBAO 0
CELTA 1 (Gudelj 10). **Att:** 35,000.

LOGRONES 2 (Garcia Pitarch 3, Salenko 75)
SEVILLA 0. **Att:** 5,000.

LA CORUNA 5 (Aldana 13, 64, Ribera 15 o.g., Bebeto 35, Fran 75)
REAL SOCIEDAD 1 (Imanol 44).
Att: 24,000.

ALBACETE 0
REAL MADRID 3 (Prosinecki 59, Hierro 60, Michel 66 pen). **Att:** 17,000.

GIJON 1 (Jordanov 41)
TENERIFE 2 (Estebaranz 45, Felipe 67).
Att: 13,000.

VALENCIA 3 (Roberto 19, Penev 62, 85 pen)
OSASUNA 1 (Auila 90). **Att:** 45,000.

BURGOS 0
BARCELONA 1 (Beguiristain 28).
Att: 12,000.

ATLETICO MADRID 2 (Luis Ga 29, 88)
CADIZ 0. **Att:** 25,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUAR

WEEKEND

OVIEDO v CADIZ — *postponed*

VALENCIA 1 (Riesco 21)
ESPANOL 1 (Francisco 42). **Att:** 9

CELTA 0
REAL ZARAGOZA 1 (Seba 81)
Att: 20,000.

SEVILLA 3 (Conte 21, 67, Simeone
ATHETLIC BILBAO 1 (Cigand
Att: 40,000.

OSASUNA 1 (Kosecki 52)
LOGRONES 2 (Pepin 52 o.g., Uribarrena 75). **Att:** 13,000.

BURGOS v ATLETICO MAD
— postponed.

REAL SOCIEDAD 1 (Imaz 53)
VALENCIA 0. **Att:** 25,000.

BARCELONA 7 (Laudrup 6, 44 p Beguiristain 12, Salinas 72, 83, Stoich 79, 90 pen)
GIJON 2 (Jordanov 73, Emilio 87 p
Att: 90,000.

REAL MADRID 2 (Zamorano 56 Michel 84)
LA CORUNA 1 (Claudio 33).
Att: 90,000.

TENERIFE 2 (Felipe 34, Pizzi 61 p
ALBACETE 2 (Pinilla 42, Corder
Att: 21,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 7

MIDWEEK

BARCELONA 2 (Eusebio 12, Am
OVIEDO 0. **Att:** 60,000.

WEEKEND

REAL ZARAGOZA 2 (Pardeza Higuera 30)
SEVILLA 1 (Suker 19). **Att:** 23,00

ESPANOL 0
CELTA 0. **Att:** 28,000.

ATHLETIC BILBAO 1 (Garita pen)
OSASUNA 0. **Att:** 30,000.

CADIZ 1 (Francis 30)
RAYO VALLECANO 1 (Polste
Att: 10,000.

LOGRONES 0
REAL SOCIEDAD 1 (Kodro 7
Att: 10,000.

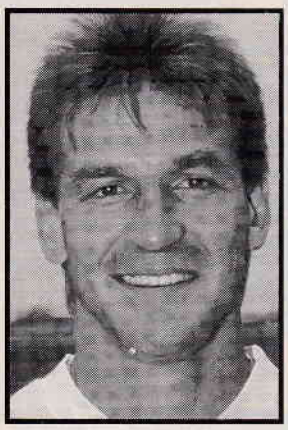
VALENCIA 1 (Penev 5)
REAL MADRID 2 (Michel 47, Zamorano 89). **Att:** 40,000.

LA CORUNA 2 (Fran 14, Bebet
TENERIFE 2 (Dertycia 88, Ezeq Castillo 89). **Att:** 30,000.

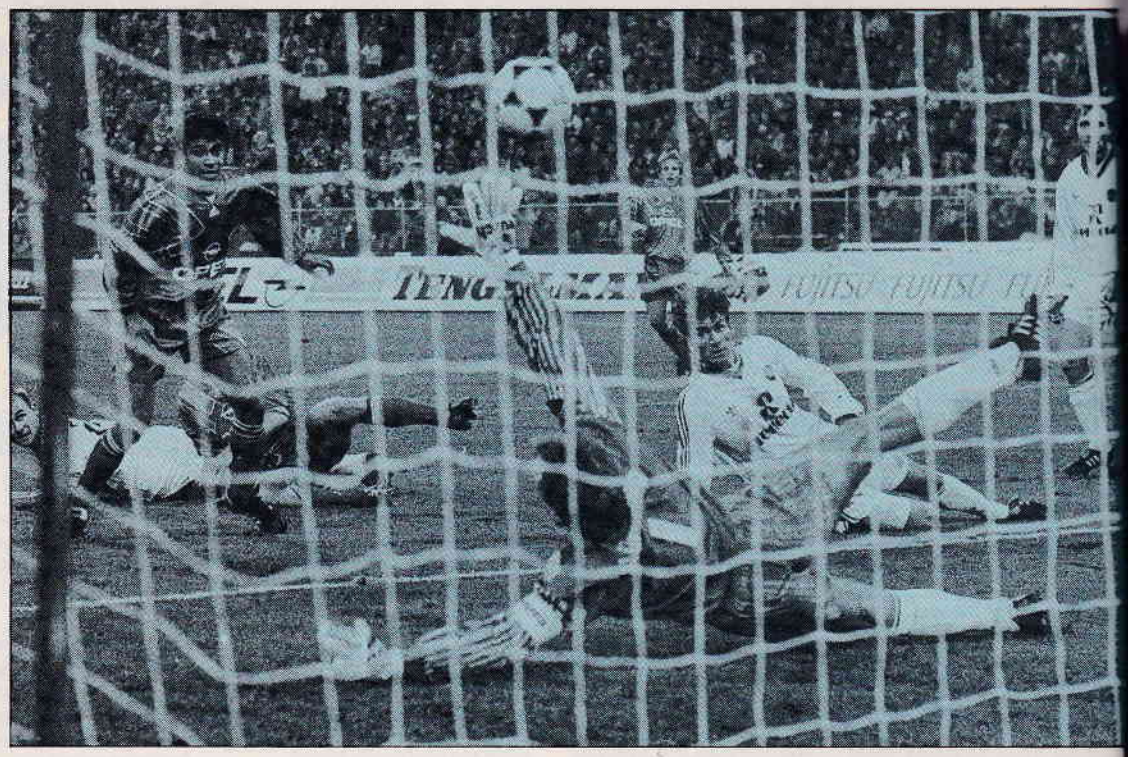
ALBACETE 0
BARCELONA 2 (Berguistain 9
Att: 15,000.

SPORTING GIJON 0
BURGOS 0. **Att:** 16,000.

ATLETICO MADRID 2 (Sch Luis Garcia 63)
OVIEDO 1 (Jankovic 88). **Att:** 2



Odd man out . . . Rohde of Hamburg thinks Werder Bremen will win the Bundesliga.



Odd-goal victory . . . Helmer (dark shirt) secures victory for Bayern against Nurnberg.

Lonely Rohde

He's the only one tipping Bayern to fail

THE EXPERTS are virtually unanimous in their verdict: Bayern Munich will win their 13th title.

This opinion is shared by the captains in the Bundesliga, for 17 out of 18 tipped Bayern. Only Frank Rohde (Hamburg) differed, going for Werder Bremen.

Bayern took the lead on the first day of the season and are still tops, pursued by Eintracht Frankfurt, Werder and Borussia Dortmund, after the ten-week winter break.

German domestic football has been criticised lately — Barcelona's manager, Johan Cruyff, claims that the players lack technique and adds: "There is an enormous difference in terms of skill between German's world champions of 1974 and the present national team. Now the best German footballers are in Italy."

Certainly, at international level, German clubs have had a lean time. Out of seven starters only Dortmund reached the quarter-finals, opposing AS Roma in the UEFA Cup.

Even so, fans have been flocking to matches in ever-increasing numbers.

Average gates have risen this season from 22,634 to 25,354. Here again Bayern are leading: at the halfway stage their average was 45,556.

They engaged five new players, among them international defender Thomas Helmer , Brazilian Jorginho and the returned Lothar Matthaus, and all fitted in admirably.

Vice-president Karl-Henz Rummenigge says: "We have produced some outstanding performances, lost only once in 18 matches and at last have a team with character. The players had to blend on the pitch and outside. Rows are no longer aired in public. Everybody is acting responsibly, conscious of our image."

Team manager Erich Ribbeck remains cautious in his assessment: "I don't indulge in fantasies and I know that we shall not finish the season with a big lead. Our advantage should have been larger.

"We dropped vital points at home. And we must brace ourselves for an uncompromising chase by the rivals behind us."

Eintracht have used 22 players, and are still engaged in the DFB Cup, meeeting Bayer Leverkusen in the semi-final. They had lost once (to Karlsruhe) by the break, but their failure in the UEFA Cup was costly.

Now they hope that a successful run in the national Cup will go some way towards compensating for the losses.

Thanks to TV money from European participation, DFB Cup and Bundesliga broadcasts, Eintracht are free of debts, and a new sponsorship deal should assure financial stability for next season.

A big blow is the forthcoming and already reported departure of Yugoslav-born team manager Dragoslav Stepanovic. He will be succeeded by the former international striker Lause Toppmoller, lately boss at Second Division Waldhof Mannheim.

This will be the popular "Toppi's" first test at the highest level.

Stepanovic is the third manager to leave this season: Egon Coordes (Hamburg) and Holger Osieck (Bochum) were fired.

Toppmoller's first job will be to try to persuade Uwe Bein, Uli Stein and Anthony Yeboah to stay in Frankfurt.

Werder Bremen are known as a typical Cup side, not consistent enough for the drawn-out League campaign. This time, however, they fell in the cup competitions, including the Cup-winners' Cup which they won last year, but are well placed in the table.

Austrian Andy Herzog proved an inspirational buy and is rated the best attacking midfielder in th Bundesliga.

Werder, particularly strong at home, have an experienced midfield and solid defence, but lack penetrating attackers. Th too are financially solven thanks to their European triumph and sensible transfer dealings.

Borussia Dortmund's UEFA Cup quarter-final place is their best effort Europe since 1966. Their strength is in attack, whe Stephane Chapuisat is rated the best striker in league.

The acquisition of Matthias Sammer, return from Italy, will add more guile and power to their midfield, but the defence less impressive. The othe former Italian "legionnair Stefan Reuter, has not be convincing.

ARTHUR ROTH

Transfer talk

BAYERN MUNICH are the main subject of the usual transfer rumours.

They have been linked with Anthony Yeboah c Eintracht Frankfurt, the Dutchman Peter Van Vossen of Belgium's Anderlecht, and former Bayern defender Andy Brehme, currently in Spain with Zaragoza.

The deadline for transfer passed on February 1, so that any player signing now will not be able to play for his new club until July.

According to general manager Uli Hoeness, Bayern will not be making any rash decisions, though they concede that the players they want could go elsewhere if Bayern stall too long.

Black gold

Yeboah in line for the Cannon

With an ironic sense of timing a new piece of history could be written this season in Germany.

At a time when the campaign of racial violence perpetrated by Neo-Nazis is gathering momentum, a black player is poised to win the coveted Golden Cannon awarded annually to the top scorer in the Bundesliga.

He is 28-year-old Ghanaian Anthony Yeboah of Eintracht Frankfurt, who has suffered his share of racial abuse and discrimination. If he wins, he will be the first non-white in the 30-year history of these presentations to claim this top individual honour.

But he is not mincing his words when he says: "What is happening here is a disgrace to Germany. I personally suffered humiliation and degradation, but I won't go into details.

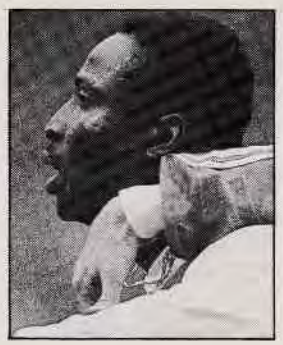
"I might upset some people who would rather sweep the unpalatable truth under the carpet."

Yeboah has overcome some of the problems and now claims: "I have tremendous self-confidence now. I know I am the best forward in the Bundesliga."

Stepanovic goes even further when he says: "I rate Yeboah only just behind Van Basten. But he is surrounded by internationals, so it is easier for him to score goals."

Extravagant praise indeed, but then Yeboah's strike rate is impressive: 33 goals in 78 League matches, eight in eight UEFA Cup ties, 16 in 34 internationals.

Yeboah was born on June 6, 1964, in Ghana's second largest city, Kumasi. He is the son of a civil servant, and one of nine children. He played for the local Corner Stones (1983-86) and then for Okwawu United (1986-88), before being recommended by an agent to German clubs.



Black footballers were then relatively new in Germany. Having lost their African colonies in World War I, the Germans did not experience the influx of immigrants from the impoverished former dominions seeking work in the land of their erstwhile rulers.

But when the transfer market created vastly inflated fees, German clubs began looking to cheaper imports from the African Continent.

Borussia Dortmund and Kickers Offenbach rejected Yeboah, but eventually Second Division Saarbrucken took him on, and after two years and 26 goals in 65 matches he was snapped up by Eintracht in 1990.

He had a hard time at first, the victim of racial taunts by opponents and spectators alike. Then he was a nobody, who had to bite his tongue and not retaliate.

"Nearly all blacks are treated badly in Europe," Yeboah claims sadly. Now he is a star and Frankfurt supporters fully accept and idolise him.

Unfortunately for them he does not intend to remain.

Already Bayern Munich have offered £600,000 a year, double what he earns now. Ajax, too, are said to want him to replace Dennis Bergkamp.

Yeboah's fee has been set at £2m. Anything above that he shares with the selling club.

Having left his wife Beatrice, with whom he arrived in Germany four years ago, he is now living with another African, Tesha. Her best friend is Macha, wife of Yeboah's Ghanianan national team mate, Abedi Pele of Marseille.

He tried to persuade Yeboah to join him, but the French club are not in the market for foreign players.

Yeboah's main assets are athleticism, suppleness, endurance, aerial strength and powerful shooting, which make him vital to Frankfurt's present challenge for the title which they just missed last season.

He was then their top scorer, and fourth best in the League, with 15 goals.

His importance to Eintracht can be gauged by the fact that before a vital Bundesliga match against Bayern at the end of October, they hired a private jet to bring him back from a World Cup game in Burundi to Ghana, so that he could catch the connecting plane from Accra via Zurich to Frankfurt.

ARTHUR **ROTMIL**

RESULTS

BUNDESLIGA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bayern Munich	20	12	7	1	42	22	31
Werder Bremen	20	10	8	2	35	19	28
Frankfurt	20	10	8	2	36	21	28
Bor. Dortmund	20	11	4	5	37	25	26
Leverkusen	20	7	9	4	41	26	23
Karlsruhe	20	9	4	7	40	39	22
FC Nurnberg	20	9	3	8	20	24	21
Kaiserslautern	20	9	2	9	33	24	20
VfB Stuttgart	20	6	8	6	28	31	20
Saarbrucken	20	5	8	7	29	34	18
Schalke	20	5	8	7	18	25	18
Hamburg	20	3	11	6	24	26	17
Borussia Mg	20	5	7	8	28	36	17
Dyn. Dresden	20	5	7	8	23	31	17
Wattenscheid	20	5	6	9	27	36	16
Koln	20	7	1	12	27	33	15
Uerdingen	20	3	6	11	17	41	12
VfL Bochum	20	2	7	11	21	33	11

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

WEEKEND

DYNAMO DRESDEN 0 FRANKFURT 2 (Schmitt 52, Okocha 75). **Att:** 13,500.

KOLN 0 KAISERSLAUTERN 3 (Witeczek 28, Goldbaek 62, Hotic 82). **Att:** 26,000.

BAYERN MUNICH 2 (Labbadia 26, 67) **UERDINGEN 0**. **Att:** 13,000.

WATTENSCHEID 0 SCHALKE 0. **Att:** 26,000.

BOR. DORTMUND 1 (Sammer 74) **BOCHUM 0**. **Att:** 41,730.

BORUSSIA MG 3 (Criens 1, 64 o.g., Dahlin 41) **KARLSRUHE 1** (Krieg 66). **Att:** 18,000.

SAARBRUCKEN 3 (Lust 8, Kristl 62, Stickroth 69) **BAYER LEVERKUSEN 1** (Thom 56). **Att:** 15,000.

WERDER BREMEN 3 (Rufer 65, Herzog 69, Hobsch 82) **NURNBERG 0**. **Att:** 15,000.

VFB STUTTGART 1 (Dubajic 13) **HAMBURG 1** (Furtok 45 o.g.). **Att:** 20,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

WEEKEND

FRANFURT 2 (Bein 30, Schmitt 45) **KOLN 1** (Rudy 86). **Att:** 22,000.

KAISERSLAUTERN 1 (Kuntz 73) **BAYERN MUNICH 3** (Wohlfahrt 9, Schupp 55, Jorginho 85). **Att:** 38,500.

BAYER UERDINGEN 1 (Laessing 15) **WATTENSCHEID 1** (Prunzen 44). **Att:** 8,000.

SCHALKE 0 BORUSSIA DORTMUND 0. **Att:** 70,200.

VFL BOCHUM 2 (Wosz 17, Herrmann 61) **BORUSSIA MG 1** (Max 86). **Att:** 25,000.

KARLSRUHE 2 (Bender 26, 45) **SAARBRUCKEN 2** (Savitchev 7, Kostner 73). **Att:** 16,000.

BAYER LEVERKUSEN 2 (Kirsten 55, Lupescu 61) **WERDER BREMEN 2** (Bode 22, Hobsch 89). **Att:** 13,700.

NURNBERG 3 (Krammy 53, 79, Wuck 58) **VFB STUTTGART 2** (Strunz 5, Walter 21). **Att:** 29,300.

HAMBURG 1 (Furtok 65) **DYNAMO DRESDEN 1** (Pilz 42). **Att:** 27,300.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 7

WEEKEND

KOLN 3 (Keuler 19, Sturm 67, Fuchs 86) **DYNAMO DRESDEN 1** (Mauksch 73). **Att:** 19,000.

BAYERN MUNICH 1 (Matthaus 27) **FRANKFURT 0**. **Att:** 64,000.

WATTENSCHEID 1 (Tschiskale 81) **KAISERSLAUTERN 0**. **Att:** 5,000.

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 2 (Povlsen 20, Sammer 46) **UERDINGEN 0**. **Att:** 36,563.

BORUSSIA MG 2 (Fach 29, Kastenmaier 45) **SCHALKE 0**. **Att:** 30,000.

SAARBRUCKEN 1 (Kristl 50) **VFL BOCHUM 1** (Christians 4). **Att:** 15,000.

NURNBERG 1 (Eckstein 70) **HAMBURG 0**. **Att:** 20,500.

WERDER BREMEN 3 (Hobsch 24, Herzog 33, Rufer 64) **KARLSRUHE 0**. **Att:** 20,500.

VFB STUTTGART 0 BAYER LEVERKUSEN 3 (Kirsten 14, Thom 37, Hapal 67). **Att:** 15,000.

Uerdingen goalkeeper Dreher breaks up a Dortmund attack.

Winner . . . Kieft celebrates his goal against the Republic of Ireland at the 1988 European Championship finals.

HOLLAND

Tell-tale signs for Taylor

ONE PLAYER leaves his younger brother in the shade. A 19-year-old, two-footed attacker makes his debut.

Rob Witschge leads Advocaat's likely lads

So, too, does a 28-year-old defender who is good in the air. Aron Winter, of Lazio, is on the bench.

All this on a day when Marco Van Basten, Frank Rijkaard and Wim Kieft were out because of injury.

Not so long ago this sort of situation would have meant curtains for Holland. Now, however, manager Dick Advocaat is getting things done along his own lines.

His reorganisation could hardly come at a better time. On April 28 Holland tackle England at Wembley. The warning signs are there for Graham Taylor to see.

We always think of the Dutch as a team showing much individual talent, and great when on the attack. They can now change their tactics at any given moment. And, like Advocaat when he was a player, character and team spirit mean a lot.

As Van Basten publicly admitted some time after Holland's flop against Denmark in Sweden: "We were brilliant against Germany, then made the big mistake of celebrating too soon. The tournament was n

Still scoring, still hoping

Leader . . . Kieft heads the PSV attack against AEK Athens.

wim KIEFT

WIM KIEFT turned 30 in November, but he is still hoping for a place in the 1994 World Cup.

If he makes it, PSV Eindhoven and Holland striker Kieft will be appearing in his fourth major international tournament in eight years.

He played in almost every match in the 1988 European Championship and the 1990 World Cup, but almost always as a substitute, and played only half a game in last year's Euro event.

"It's my bad luck that there's only one country in the world where Marco Van Basten can play centre-forward," Kieft laments.

"I don't pretend that I'm as good as Van Basten, because that's just not true. But I'm good."

He has scored 12 goals in 41 internationals, most of them brief appearances, and naturally wonders what might have been had Van Basten not been born two years after him in the same country.

Like so many Dutch players, Kieft was blooded very young. He started his career at Ajax, the club he had always supported, and he was only 19 when he made his debut for Holland in a 2-1 defeat against Switzerland in 1981.

Two other young Amsterdammers made their international debuts that day: Ruud Gullit and Frank Rijkaard.

In 1981-82, Kieft won the Golden Shoe as the highest scorer in Europe, but a year later Ajax were content to sell him to Pisa. They were about to unveil Van Basten, even better, even younger.

When Kieft left Holland he was a big, unrefined, centre-froward. His years in Italy, with Pisa and Torino, made him the player he is today: a team-man, with technique surprising in one so large, who can shield the ball until support arrives and then can distribute it with amazing intelligence.

And he still scores. He has averaged around 20 a season for over a decade.

He returned to Holland in 1987 to join PSV. His first season there was the most successful of his career. PSV won the domestic double and the Champions' Cup, and then Holland won their only international prize to date, the European Championship.

Kieft did not start a single match in that tournament, but his three appearances as substitute were crucial.

Each time he went on, against England, the Republic of Ireland and West Germany, Holland were behind or level, and each time they went on to win.

The greatest moment of Kieft's international career came in the final group match against Ireland, when with eight minutes to go he headed the goal that put Holland in the semi-final, a freak bounce taking the ball past keeper Packie Bonnie.

Since then Kieft has improved but his teams have worsened, while his independent mind has led him into trouble. In November 1990, five months after Holland's disaster at the World Cup, Kieft walked out of a training camp, after he had been left out of the side to play Greece at the request of some team-mates.

There were problems at PSV, too. After he and Soren Lerby had quarrelled with Gerald Vanenburg, Kieft spent the 1990-91 season with Bordeaux. It was his bad luck that the scandal of the club's debts broke just as he arrived, and the team barely avoided relegation.

PRO-FILE

WIM KIEFT

PSV EINDHOVEN AND HOLLAND

Born: November 12, 1962.

Previous clubs: Ajax, Pisa, Torino, PSV Eindhoven, Bordeaux.

Internationals debut: 1981, v Switzerland, lost 2-1.

Caps: 41 (12 goals).

HONOURS

European Championship: 1988.

Champions' Cup: 1988 (with PSV).

Dutch League: 1980, 1982 (with Ajax), 1987, 1988, 1989, 1992 (with PSV).

Dutch Cup: 1988, 1989, 1990 (with PSV).

Golden Shoe: 1981-82.

He was relieved to rejoin PSV in 1991, but says the current side lack the skill repeat the successes of 1988. Last year's title was due more to the brilliance of Kieft, Gica Popescu an Hans van Breukelen than a team effort.

Kieft defends manager Bobby Robson, whose contract with PSV was no renewed. "The attacks on him were unfair," he says. "I like Robson's approach.

"The professionalism, th relaxed preparation for a big match — that suits me And Robson is fair and honest. He has never publicly attacked anyone. He does that in the changing-room. But our players run to the press."

Yet Kieft expects to finis his career at PSV. He has house in Amsterdam, and hopes never to move abroad again.

The only move he wants to make is the one that takes him out of Van Basten's shadow. He migh even take a step in that direction when Holland pl England this month.

SIMON KUP

over, but we thought we had already done it all."

Here are some matters arising from the new-look Holland as demonstrated in the 3-1 home win over Turkey.

Rob Witschge of Feyenoord is the 25-year-old midfielder who left young brother Richard, currently in and out of the Barcelona team and out of the Dutch squad, in the shade.

Rob is a natural — he scored the final two goals that finished Turkey off — whereas Richard had struggled to follow Arnold Muhren on the left side.

Marc Overmars is the 19-year-old attacker with two brilliant feet. Like Rob Witschge, he is a product of the Ajax school.

Johan de Kock of FC Utrecht is the 28-year-old defender who is good in the air, which is not top of the list of skills for most Dutch players.

Advocaat also has brought in hard-working Anderlecht striker Peter Van Vossen, and Feyenoord keeper Ed de Goey, now established as No. 1, has given defenders more confidence.

Ever since defender Adri van Tiggelen decided that 35 was the best time to retire from the international scene, Holland have been searching for players with his character.

Jan Wouters is still around, but until players such as De Kock and Overmars were introduced it seemed an impossible task for Advocaat.

And Winter in the dugout? He had not performed badly, but his place in Advocaat's mind is for tactical changes during the game.

There is one more player still on the sidelines — 30-year-old Feyenoord central defender John de Wolf. He seemed certain to be recalled when he had to drop out with a hamstring injury received in training.

De Wolf is the defender who played Gary Lineker out of the game at White Hart Lane during last season's Tottenham v Feyenoord European Cup-winners' Cup quarter-final.

Van Basten may not be fit for his international comeback at Wembley, but Holland have not done so badly without him.

And that includes Dennis Bergkamp and Wim Jonk, who will move to Internazionale next season and join soccer's millionaire club.

England, you have been warned!

Sidelined . . . De Wolf was sadly injured in training.

Calderwood for Cambuur

JIMMY CALDERWOOD'S home in Almelo, may be quite a long way from the better known town of Maastricht, but he is still a European.

He was born in Glasgow and made his name as a central defender with Birmingham City before moving to Holland, where he established himself with Willem II Tilburg, then had a longer period with Roda JC Kerkrade, and ended his playing career with Second Division SC Heracles.

He stayed with the club as youth coach before moving on to FC Zwolle as assistant manager, and now, with the second-highest coaching diploma in Holland, he is to join Cambuur Leeuwarden in the Premier Division next season, as No. 2.

The main difference between English and Dutch footballers, according to Calderwood, is in their mentality. "The Dutch are good players, but they sometimes give up when things go wrong, whereas in England the game goes on until the last minute," he says.

At 37, he believes he can teach the Dutch something about that British fighting spirit.

ERIC **NICHOLLS**

BELGIUM

Hooligans still the biggest problem

MANY European countries have managed to control their hooligans but, in Belgium the problem gets more and more out of hand.

Now Belgium's Interior Minister, Louis Tobback, wants all teams who play on Saturday evenings to switch to Sunday afternoons. Almost all clubs are very much against this, although hooligan-spotting is easier in daylight.

At the moment 11 clubs in the First Division and nine in the Second have Saturday evening kick-offs, and for the sake of their sponsors they do not want to change.

A very big percentage of their income is from sponsors: Antwerp, for example, have a sponsor lounge with 600 business seats behind glass, bringing in £1.2 million a year.

Clubs now fear that wealthy businessmen are not prepared to give up their free Sundays for the sake of the club. Tobback has announced that he is not prepared to force clubs to play on a Sunday, but that could change if trouble continues.

The 200th victory in Belgian history, 3-0 in Cyprus meant that Belgium national coach Paul van Himst is virtually sure of qualifying for World Cup '94.

Before the game in Larnaca, Van Himst said that, in is opinion, Belgium need only four more points from the last five games. Two surely should come from the home game against the Faroes on May 22. So a victory in Cyprus was all he needed.

In that case the results of the games against Wales (away, March 31), Romania (away, October 13) and Czechoslovakia (home, November 17) would be unimportant.

Enzo Scifo scored twice, then flew back to Italy by private plane straight after the game. Player Of The Year Philippe Albert hit the third.

Lokeren have sacked coach Aime Antheunis, and youth coach Etienne D'Hondt has taken over.

JAN-HERMEN **DE BRIUJN**

Eagle flying high

Nigerian with a double target

TO Nigerian striker Daniel Amokachi, football is much like acting, and the bigger the stage so the better the performance.

At the tender age of 20, Amokachi is pretty much on course with his career plans to turn international soccer venues into his private showcase.

His Belgian side, Club Brugge, are involved in the lucrative Champions League, grouped in the battle for a place in the Final with Marseille, Rangers and CSKA Moscow.

At international level, his country are well on course for a place in the 1994 World Cup in the US, having finished top of their first-round group.

He is an integral part of both campaigns, having returned from injury to score the winning goal for Brugge against CSKA Moscow, then helping to ensure Nigeria's progress in the 0-0 draw against South Africa.

"America next year will be the biggest stage of all for me, so I'm determined to play there," he says.

Wide media interest and comprehensive TV coverage of both the Champions League and the World Cup will allow Amokachi to display the talent that has impressed the Belgians since he signed for Brugge three years ago.

"My dream is to play for Barcelona and in these competitions I will get a chance to show what I can do," he adds.

Amokachi, born on December 30, 1972, signed for Brugge at 17 after being spotted while playing for Nigeria's national team on a training tour in Holland. He scored five goals in three matches against club sides and Brugge were quick to pay off his Nigerian club, Ranchers Bees, and sign him.

Today Amokachi speaks English with a Dutch accent and admits he had problems adapting to life in Europe.

"There were all these big names in football when I arrived and I was training with the first team straight away, so I felt very intimidated. Jan Ceulemans helped me to settle down."

Amokachi took some time to break into the team, but a goal after going on as a substitute in a pre-season game against Anderlecht secured his place.

He was a regular last season, netting 12 goals in 26 games and winning a first Belgian title. He also scored in the Cup-winners' Cup, although Brugge lost to Werder Bremen in the semi-finals.

At international level, Amokachi made his debut for Nigeria against Ivory Coast in the ECOWAS tournament and played in several qualifiers as the "Super Eagles" struggled for a place in the 1992 Nations' Cup finals in Senegal.

But then he was a surprise omission from the squad for the tournament. "I decided to stay in Belgium because I did not want to sit on the bench," he says.

Since then Amokachi has played twice more for Nigeria. The World Cup qualifier in Johannesburg in January was his first match for the Super Eagles since August, when he was hurt after 20 minutes of the African Nations' Cup qualifier against Uganda in Lagos.

"I came back from Nigeria to Bruges in a wheelchair," he says. "The club were furious with me, but that's soccer."

Now, back to full fitness, he is determined to make the best of the considerable opportunities that lie ahead.

MARK **GLEESON**

Ambitious . . . Amokachi (stripes) hopes to play in World Cup '94.

SWITZERLAND

All smiles at the moment

SWISS football is facing one of the most important years in its history.

For the first time since 1966 the national team have an excellent chance to reach the World Cup finals, thanks mainly to striker Stephane Chapuisat.

He plies his trade with Borussia Dortmund in Germany, and the Swiss call him their "best soccer ambassador they have had".

Seven points from four games have sparked great excitement among a footballing fraternity not exactly spoiled by success in recent years.

The next World Cup qualifier, against Portugal in Bern on March 31, was sold out weeks ago.

This tie and the next, the prestigious clash with Italy, should net the FA around £900,000. Last season the national side produced a deficit because of low attendances.

Experts warn of premature optimism, but expectations are high. A place at US '94 would bring further much-needed revenue. Perhaps before then a sponsor can be found for the national squad, to provide the players with extra income.

Meanwhile the championship got under way again at the end of February. For the first time the country's biggest and most successful club, Grasshopper, are not taking part in the play-off for the title.

They have been demoted to the pool where they must fight to remain in the higher grade. Their group also includes such big clubs as Luzern and Basel.

The recession has bitten deeply into Swiss soccer forcing most clubs to reduce the players' wages, which for so long bore no relation to the status or performance of clubs.

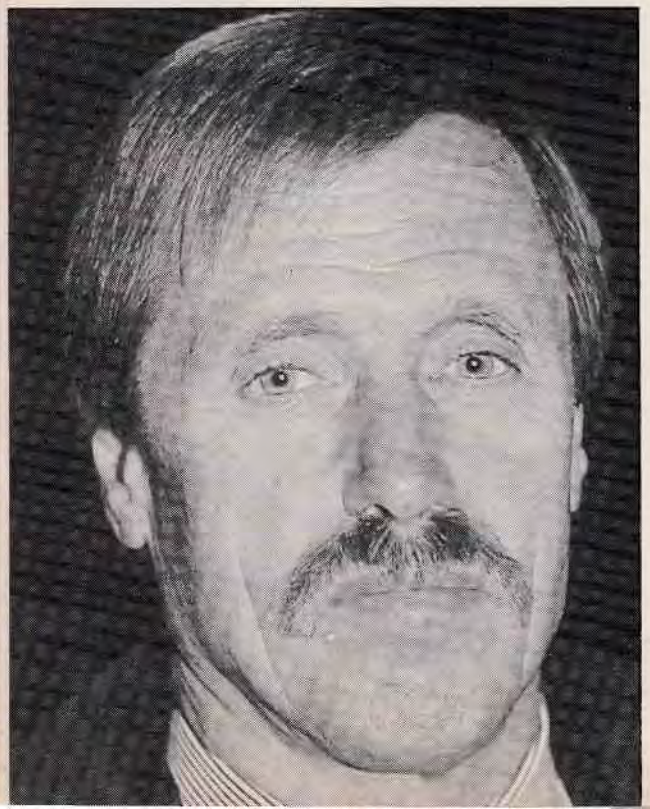
But there has been a welcome injection of finance from the new television contract. A live game is being shown every weekend, in return for £9.7m over the next five years.

ARTHUR **ROTMIL**

Ambassador . . . Stephane Chapuisat of Borussia Dortmund.

AUSTRIA

The scramble starts again



SOCCER resumed early in March after an unusually long break from November 28.

Experts predict the closest championship race for years, with two points covering the top five clubs.

And even the sixth, Admira/Wacker, were very much in the hunt, for in the last round before the close-down they crushed one of the title favourites Wacker/Innsbruck, 4-0, thus depriving them of the title of autumn champions.

Admira's German team manager, former World Cup striker Sigi Held, gained in confidence after this admirable performance, his club's first win over the fancied Tyroleans in eight meetings.

German striker Olaf Marschall scored twice for Admira and moved up to second in the league list with 12 goals. Innsbruck's Vaclav Danek had 18.

Admira's captain and midfield general Peter Artner, now ranks as the perhaps best player in the division, and is now said to be studying foreign offers.

Despite the excellent "half-time" performances Held was not wholly satisfied with the first phase.

"We have dropped too many vital points," he complained.

Next season the top division will be reduced from 12 clubs to ten. Financial problems besetting all clubs have pushed a large number of professionals out of work.

Managers, too, remain under pressure, especially those who have not been long with a club.

FK Austria's Hermann Stessl, Rapid Vienna's controversial Gustl Starek and Innsbruck's Yugoslav-born Branko Elsner are very much on trial.

Admirable . . . Sigi Held.

ARTHUR **ROTMIL**

ICELAND

LEARNING AS WELL AS EARNING

ICELANDIC players do not seem to fit in with clubs in British socce

Experienced exports suc as Gudni Bergsson (Spurs Gunni Torfason (St. Johnstone) and Toddy Orlygss (Forest) have not been abl to establish themselves a first-team regulars.

Meanwhile, their colleagues in the national team, Eyjolfur Sverrisson (Stuttgart) and Sigurdur Gretarsson (Grasshoppers), are playing key roles with the clubs.

This is causing problem for Asgeir Eliasson, the national manager, but he has decided to select the despite their difficulties.

Perhaps expectations were too high in the first place, so that it's hard fo players to fulfil these idea

Although the exports ar struggling in the British Premier League, Icelandic clubs are looking for tale in England! IBV from the Vestmann Islands are negotiating a loan contra with West Ham for defenc Paul Marquis.

The national team will play two friendlies before the World Cup game against Luxembourg in M

One will be in the US, b the second has yet to be confirmed.

Eliasson has chosen Ar Gunnlaugsson, the 19-ye old striker from Feyenoor for the US game, and is watching other youngste

Icelandic soccer probab will lose yet another tale after this season. Runar Kristinsson, 23-year-old captain of KR Reykjavik, expected to join one of Europe's bigger clubs.

Kristinsson, a midfielde in the national team, has been on trial with Paris S Le Havre, Stuttgart and Brann, but has yet to rea an agreement.

The Norwegians offere him a deal but he refuse and said: "Norwegian soccer isn't any more exciting than Icelandic."

Young players go abroa to learn as well as to ear This is happening with th Gunnlaugsson twins in Holland and Gudmundur Benediktsson in Belgium although Benediktsson h been unlucky with injuri

BJORN **HRAFNSS**

Away? . . . Runar Kristinsson.

SWEDEN

Fjellstrom goes to Malmo

MALMO have won the race to the signature of Swedish international midfielder Jens Fjellstrom from relegated Djurgarden.

Fjellstrom, 27, was the most sought-after player in the close-season transfer market. He was originally wanted by champions AIK Stockholm — until Djurgarden controversially announced that their local rivals must pay at least million kronas "extra" to get him.

Fjellstrom then was expected to sign for Germany's Oldenburg before a sudden U-turn landed him at Malmo.

MFF, under Danish coach Viggo Jensen, hope to end a run of four lean years. They have acquired striker Peter Hillgren from Trelleborg and Finnish midfielder Mika Nurmela from FC Haka. On the other hand, they have released former skipper Per Agren and veteran goal-getter Dan Corneliusson.

Gothenburg have denied any interest in Anders Limpar, widely expected to leave Arsenal next summer. "We're not in the market for new players," a club spokesman says.

Coach Roger Gustafsson will have a new assistant — Ruben Svensson, a former defender with the club.

PENTTI **HIETANEN**

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

Any one from five

THE new play-off system in the League of Ireland Premier Division is proving very popular.

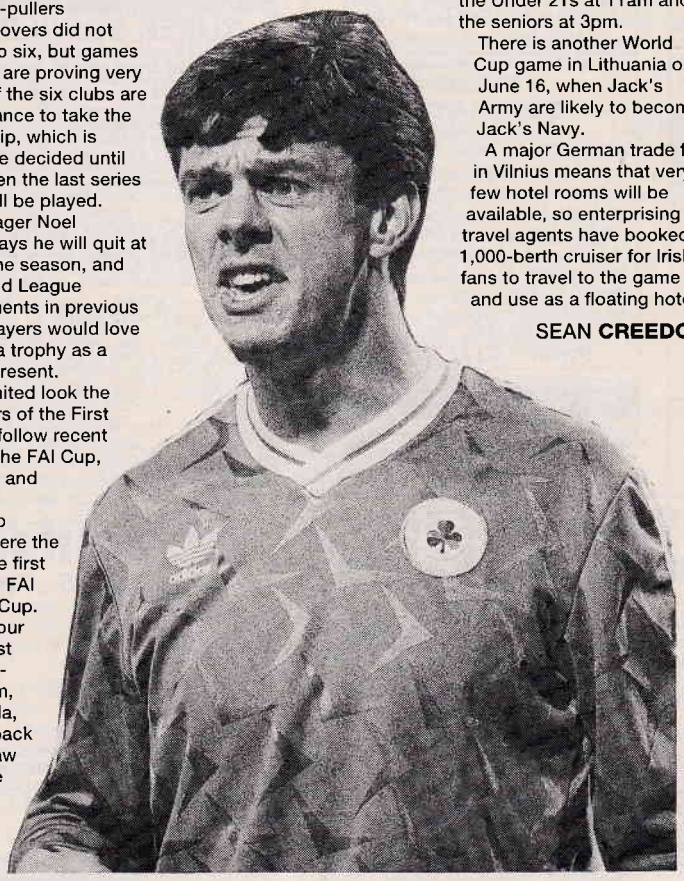
Initially there was concern when crowd-pullers Shamrock Rovers did not make the top six, but games in Section A are proving very tight. Five of the six clubs are in with a chance to take the championship, which is unlikely to be decided until April 14, when the last series of games will be played.

Cork manager Noel O'Mahony says he will quit at the end of the season, and after Cup and League disappointments in previous years the players would love to give him a trophy as a retirement present.

Galway United look the likely winners of the First Division, to follow recent victories in the FAI Cup, League Cup and Shield.

Junior club Glenmore were the heroes in the first round of the FAI Harp Lager Cup. They were four down against another non-League team, Ashtown Villa, but fought back for a 4-4 draw and won the replay 1-0.

Jack Charlton's Republic of Ireland team will play Hungary at Lansdowne Road on Saturday May 29, in a testimonial for David O'Leary (pictured).



The game will be sandwiched between World Cup games in Albania on May 26 and Latvia on June 9.

The Irish will make history on their trip to Albania with two games on the same day, the Under 21s at 11am and the seniors at 3pm.

There is another World Cup game in Lithuania on June 16, when Jack's Army are likely to become Jack's Navy.

A major German trade fair in Vilnius means that very few hotel rooms will be available, so enterprising travel agents have booked a 1,000-berth cruiser for Irish fans to travel to the game and use as a floating hotel.

SEAN **CREEDON**

FINLAND

Watch out for a flood

A CHANGE in Finnish rules almost surely will open the way for a flood of players from Russia and other CIS states.

Previously, clubs could only have three "fixed" foreigners per season. Now they are allowed to sign as many as they want, although only three can be used in one match.

The new rule is tailor-made for clubs scouring the east for cheap talent. Last season Russian veterans such as midfielders Alexsei Yeremenko (FF Jaro), Vasily Karatayev (Rovaniemi) and goalkeeper Mikhail Biryukov (MyPa) were among the cream of the local league.

TPV Tampere owe their place in the top division mainly to former Moscow Spartak midfielders Oleg Ivanov and Valery Popovitsh.

The best-known newcomer is goalkeeper Aleksander Prudnikov, signed by FF Jaro. Prudnikov, now 32, palyed for Dynamo and Moscow Torpedo and was a member of the Soviet Union's gold-winning team at the 1988 Seoul Olympics before joining Sarajevo in Yugoslavia.

PENTTI **HIETANEN**

TABLES

NORTHERN IRELAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Linfield	23	15	6	2	36	7	51
Portadown	23	13	8	2	52	18	47
Crusaders	23	15	2	6	40	25	47
Bangor	23	14	3	6	40	26	45
Distillery	23	14	1	8	43	31	43
Glenavon	23	12	3	8	38	26	39
Glentoran	23	11	5	7	53	27	38
Ards	23	11	5	7	42	40	38
Carrick Rangers	23	10	2	11	40	51	32
Ballymena Utd	23	9	3	11	34	36	30
Cliftonville	23	9	1	13	30	35	28
Larne	23	7	2	14	32	46	23
Omagh Town	23	6	5	12	31	46	23
Coleraine	23	5	1	17	23	47	16
Newry Town	23	3	4	16	23	63	13
Ballyclare	23	2	5	16	20	54	11

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

Group A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cork City	27	14	7	6	41	29	35
Bohemians	27	11	12	4	40	16	34
Shelbourne	27	12	9	6	46	25	33
Derry City	27	10	13	4	22	18	33
Dundalk	27	10	12	5	32	27	32
Limerick	27	6	14	7	26	22	26
Group B							
St Patrick's Ath	27	6	15	6	23	24	26
Shamrock Rov.	27	6	10	11	35	28	22
Sligo Rovers	27	5	12	10	14	28	22
Drogheda Utd	27	4	13	10	23	38	21
Waterford	27	8	5	14	29	52	21
Bray Wand.	27	3	12	12	15	37	18

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Anderlecht	24	19	4	1	58	19	42
Standard	25	14	6	5	47	29	34
Club Brugge	25	12	6	7	37	24	30
Waregem	25	12	5	8	59	36	29
Antwerp	25	12	4	9	46	38	28
RWDM	25	9	10	6	35	28	28
Mechelen	24	12	3	9	35	26	27
Gent	25	10	7	8	36	31	27
Beveren	25	11	5	9	33	31	27
Charleroi	25	9	7	9	38	37	25
Lierse	25	10	5	10	36	35	25
Liege	25	8	7	10	34	50	23
Genk	24	6	10	8	26	27	22
Cercle Brugge	25	6	8	11	48	57	20
Ekeren	24	7	5	12	38	46	19
Boom	25	5	4	16	33	73	14
Lokeren	25	3	7	15	21	44	13
Lommel	25	5	3	17	30	58	13

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PSV	22	16	3	3	53	19	35
Feyenoord	23	14	7	2	53	22	35
Twente	23	13	6	4	43	19	33
Ajax	22	12	7	3	55	16	31
MVV	23	13	4	6	39	29	30
Vitesse	23	9	10	4	35	20	28
Utrecht	22	9	7	6	30	23	25
Volendam	22	7	10	5	29	17	24
Willem II	23	8	7	8	24	21	23
RKC	23	8	7	8	33	40	23
Sparta	23	6	8	9	26	38	20
Groningen	21	5	8	8	20	30	18
GA Eagles	23	6	6	11	28	44	18
Cambuur	23	3	11	9	24	34	17
Roda JC	21	6	3	12	30	41	15
Den Bosch	22	2	7	13	18	50	11
Fortuna Sittard	22	4	2	16	19	55	10
SVV/Dordrecht	23	2	5	16	12	53	9

SWITZERLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Young Boys	2	1	1	0	1	0	17
Aarau	2	1	1	0	3	1	15
Sion	2	1	0	1	3	2	15
Lugano	2	1	1	0	3	1	14
Lausanne	2	1	0	1	1	1	14
Servette	2	0	0	2	0	5	14
Neuchatel	2	1	0	1	4	3	13
Zurich	2	0	1	1	0	2	13

BULGARIA

More managers 'Go waltzing'

NATIONAL coach Dimitar Penev has been under fire. His ideas as to how and, mainly, where to prepare for Bulgaria's World Cup ties with Austria in the Prater and Finland in the Levski are the subject of criticism.

Now that France have edged closer with a similar record after winning in Israel, the Bulgars have to hope the Swedes drop points in Paris on the same day as the Finns go to Sofia, but why did the national squad visit the Emirates and Tunisia?

Foreign-based players were not in the party and the result was a 3-0 defeat in Tunisia and a 1-0 loss in Dubai.

This was within 48 hours of the French victory in Tel Aviv, and Penev's critics had a field day.

A 3-1 win before the national team's "holiday tour" ended in the Emirates did not change things, the defence again looking suspect.

Back home there was concern that league football would not resume after the winter break. With nearly every professional club in dire financial trouble, Parliament was asked to help and guarantee aid so that the second half of the season could begin under the threat of a league-organised strike.

Meanwhile clubs were competing for a record: who would fire the highest number in the "waltz of the managers"?

Ten First Division sides parted company with the man in charge in the first half of 1992-93.

The latest, Ludmil Goranov, brought Spartak Varna out of the Second Division last year. In view of Spartak's difficulty in meeting financial obligations he was not unhappy to leave, and there may be time for him to find a new job with a better chance of receiving some remuneration.

As April approached, only three clubs retained the manager in office last September.

BOB VAUGHAN

JIM HOOLEY looks at a Bulgarian's remarkable impact

Bontcho's on the ball

A good all-round player

BONTCHO GUENTCHEV has answered his critics where it matters — on the testing fields of the Premier League and in the FA Cup.

Balkan magic was too much for poor Grimsby in the fifth round and brought Guentchev, the 28-year-old Bulgarian, his first hat-trick in English football, after a dozen games.

He has displayed pace, vision and rare economical technical quality.

His finishing bears the hallmark of the stiletto yet this is the same foreigner whose credentials were brought into question during English football's latest bout of xenophobia.

"I don't know how good you have to be to get into the Bulgarian team but he would walk into mine," said dazzled Grimsby captain Graham Rodger, an FA Cup winner with Coventry City in 1987.

Guentchev's journey from Timovo in central Bulgaria to deepest Suffolk is fascinating.

Europe's major clubs were first altered to him as he and fellow striker Krasimir Balakov led unfashionable Etar to the Bulgarian championship to seasons ago. Both were signed by Sporting Lisbon, coached by former England and Ipswich boss Bobby Robson.

Then, under pressure to release some of his foreigners, Robson decided to keep Balakov, now Portugal's leading scorer, and at the same time do his old club a favour by selling Guentchev and Vlado Bozinoski to Ipswich for a meagre £350,000. Bozinoski, born in Macedonia but brought up in Australia from the age of six, has acted as interpreter during Ipswich team talks. "The rest is noughts and crosses on the blackboard," says Ipswich coach Mick McGiven.

Guentchev's work permit was granted on the basis of Bulgarian information that he had played 12 times for his country. Ah, said the experts, we can find only one appearance, against Sweden. Was somebody trying to pull a fast one?

They did not realise that the Bulgarians count every match, whether against countries or clubs, as a full appearances. No matter. If Guentchev maintains his progress in the English game, even at 28, he can expect to make quite a few more proper appearances, possibly starting with Austria in a World Cup qualifier.

In the meantime, Guentchev is proud to be the first Bulgarian in English football.

Other countrymen tried and failed, including national team sweeper and sometime captain Niki Iliev, who had unsuccessful trials with Leeds and Wolves.

Guentchev's articulacy on the pitch is not quite matched yet in English conversation, but he was persuaded to g his first media conference, through an interpreter frien He was surrounded by fam and friends, his young son his side clutching the matc ball, signed by all his impressed Ipswich colleag

Yes, he owed much to his hard-working team-mates. Yes, he had found it a little difficult to adapt at first to Ipswich's potent mix of lon and short ball style. More significantly, he had taken time to become fit enough play twice a week.

Yet, the most important thing he had learned was t it is necessary to give 100 cent during every game in England. There are no easy ones.

Guentchev revealed that Robson, who introduced th Dutch dimension to English football at Ipswich in the seventies, has taken an alm fatherly interest in his Bulgarian connection, speaking to him most days telephone.

As Ipswich veteran John Wark says, it is still too ear to assess Guentchev's possible long-term impact the English game.

Wark, who won a UEFA C medal in Robson's 1980-81 Ipswich side, says: "As yet he's hard to compare with Arnold Muhren and Frans Thijssen. They were truly g players.

"But he's getting better a stronger and is beginning t score regularly. He's very h to mark, has a sharp mind, quicker than most and is skilful and direct.

"To sum up, a good all-round Continental player."

1993 MAIN BULGARIAN TRANSFERS

Player	From	To
Bozhidar ISKRENOV	Botev Plovdiv	CSKA Sofia
Goscho GIMTCHOV	Beroe	Levski
Nasko SIRAKOV	Lens	Levski
Rumen STOIANOV	Levski	Etar
Boban BABUNSKI	Vardar Skopje	CSKA Sofia
Georgi VELINOV	CSKA Sofia	Slavia Sofia
Emil DIMITROV	CSKA Sofia	Lok. Plovdiv
Yordan MARIMOV	CSKA Sofia	Slavia Sofia

HUNGARY

Kuusela's Kispest looking likely

KISPEST HONVED, after the cold shower of a 2-1 defeat at Woking during their close-season trip to England continued their unbeaten domestic sequence under Martti Kuusela, the former Finland national team manager (left), when the spring season began.

Gabor Marton's 18-yard left-footed shot gave them a 1-0 home win over promoted Bekescsaba, the seventh victory in eight League games (the other was a draw) since Kuusela became the first western European to manage a First Division Hungarian club in recent times.

The win took 1991 champions Kispest into second place on 23 points, one behind Vac, after some surprising opening-day results.

Ferencvaros, the champions, lost 1-0 at home to promoted Csepel, while Vac and Vasas drew at Siofok and Raba respectively. Videoton-Waltham, another in-form team when the autumn season ended, fell 2-0 at Pecs.

Kispest won in the Cup, 2-1 at home over Second Division Haladas of Szombathely, in a quarter-final first leg. That was the score by which MTK won at little Sarand.

The other ties — BVSC v Bekescsaba and Pecs v Ferencvaros — were postponed because of snow.

Kispest, who played in Belgium as well as England during the break, have some fine young players. The beautifully-balanced yet strong Jozsef Szabados, already an under-21 international, appears the pick.

Ference Orosz, now fully recovered after his ankle problems, shows in his movement and anticipation that he has goal-scoring qualities.

Yet, perhaps one player — an old head to spread the play, to coax the players on the pitch — is required for the team to show their best.

Kuusela, a speaker of English and German who must have his team-talks translated — "it is a bit of a problem but not the most important factor" — had success at home with HJK Helsinki, then with Finland's national team, and with B1903 Copenhagen.

He is 47, a graduate of the Koln sports school, and with his open-minded nature he is winning over the doubters in his latest adopted city.

He was out of work last October when he got the call from his personal manager, Kispest's Belgian president Lous de Vries — now the football club's majority shareholder — to replace Jozsef Vereves. His contract expires at the end of this season but lawyers representing de Vries are formulating an extension to July 1994.

Kuusela says: "When I arrived in Budapest people said How can the ski trainer be a football trainer? Now they probably say that I am a football trainer but I think I can continue at Kispest only if we qualify for a European competition next season. If we don't, I must find a new job again.

"But this is the life of a professional trainer; if you want to be one then sometimes you must expect to be dismissed."

BRIAN **O'SULLIVAN**

LITHUANIA

Poderis heads young talent

DO NOT ever underestimate the power of Lithuania's national team. Even when manager Algimintas Liubinskas cannot field his full team, his side are the best in the Baltic states.

During the first two post-Soviet-occupation Baltic Nations' Cup tournaments, in November 1991 and last summer, a much weakened Lithuanian side won the gold medals, even without most of their internationals who play abroad, including Valdas Ivanauskas, Arminas Narbekovas, Robertas Fridrikas, Arvydas Janonis and Sigitas Baranauskas.

Another much-weakened Lithuanian side even obtained the country's best result ever, holding new European champions Denmark to a 0-0 draw in Vilnius.

Even though the Danes dominated the game, there was reason to celebrate, because Liubinskas had to manage without six of his regular players.

Lithuania is a nation with only 3.7 million people and soccer is not the national sport, but the players show a lot of spirit.

Andrias Tereskinas of Zalgiris brought his country their first World Cup victory, hitting the winning goal against Latvia five minutes before the final whistle. Then, in a friendly with Georgia, the Lithuanians won by a last-minute goal from Arunas Mika, the young Sirius Klaipeda defender.

Lithuanian soccer has many talented youngsters. Champions Zalgiris may be considered a teenage squad, with most of the players born in the 1973-75 period. One, Elmintas Poderis, now regularly appears in the national team.

Poderis and his colleagues may get better financial opportunities abroad if they prove to be the type that clubs in western Europe are seeking.
They should at least improve their individual qualities, which could be an advantage for the national side.

PERRY **MENEXIS**

Lithuania's overall record from June 24, 1923 to January 1, 1993.

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Albania	1	0	0	1	0	1
Austria	1	0	0	1	0	4
Byelorussia	1	0	1	0	1	1
Denmark	1	0	1	0	0	0
Estonia	38	15	7	16	49	70
Finland	3	1	0	2	4	12
Georgia	2	1	1	0	3	1
Latvia	38	9	9	20	63	96
Libya	1	1	0	0	6	0
Moldova	1	0	1	0	1	1
N. Ireland	1	0	1	0	2	2
Romania	2	0	0	2	2	6
Sweden	3	0	0	3	1	17
Switzerland	1	0	0	1	0	9
Total	*94*	*27*	*21*	*46*	*132*	*221*

The match played in March 1992, was against Poland "B"

CROATIA

Twin spearhead should earn a profit

TWO excellent strikers are the main hopes for Croatia's international success in future.

They are Robert Prosinecki, formerly of Red Star Belgrade and now of Real Madrid, and Josip Weber of Cercle Bruges.

Prosinecki was outstanding as Yugoslavia qualified for last year's European Championship, but then missed his chance to shine on that major stage when UN sanctions forced the team's withdrawal and replacement by the eventual winners, Denmark.

Now Prosinecki has declared his allegiance to Croatia.

He has had few chances since going to Spain, where so many players compete for places, but Weber is a regular in Belgium and has been scoring consistently.

Croatia's footballing past is shrouded in mystery. Some records credit Yugoslavia with certain fixtures before World War Two when in fact the team comprised mainly Croatian players. Similarly a match in 1941 was officially against Germany, but was played in Vienna with six Austrians in the opposing line-up.

Croatia declared independence in July 1991, and under team manager Jerkovic the authorities are hoping for more international fixtures.
A tour of Australia last year was somewhat disappointing, but there was a 3-0 home win over Mexico last autumn, and the game's followers in this strife-torn land remain optimistic.

FULL INTERNATIONALS PLAYED BY CROATIA

Date	Opponents	Score	Venue
02.05.40	Hungary	0-1	Budapest
08.12.40	Hungary	1-1	Zagreb
15.06.41	Germany	1-5	Vienna
07.09.41	Slovakia	1-1	Bratislava
28.09.41	Slovakia	5-2	Zagreb
18.01.42	Germany	0-2	Zagreb
05.04.42	Italy	0-4	Genoa
11.04.42	Bulgaria	6-0	Zagreb
07.06.42	Slovakia	2-1	Bratislava
14.06.42	Hungary	1-1	Budapest
07.09.42	Slovakia	6-1	Zagreb
11.10.42	Romania	2-2	Bucharest
01.11.42	Germany	1-5	Stuttgart
10.04.43	Slovakia	1-0	Zagreb
07.06.43	Slovakia	3-1	Bratislava
09.04.44	Slovakia	7-3	Zagreb
05.07.92	Australia	0-1	Sydney
08.07.92	Australia	1-3	Adelaide
12.07.92	Australia	0-0	Melbourne
22.10.92	Mexico	3-0	Zagreb

PERRY **MENEXIS**

POLAND

Facing the facts of economic life

THE number of internationals with Polish clubs is continually declining as offers from foreign clubs prove irresistible.

Two more have left recently, Jaroslaw Araskiewicz of Lech Poznan and Miecszylaw Szewczyk of Ruch Chorzow both going to Germany.

Highly-touted Legia striker Wojciech Kowalczyk, Footballer of the Year, reportedly turned down an offer from Nottingham Forest in favour of waiting for a big lire or peseta payment.

Kowalcyzk explained the facts of business sporting life to the Polish public — in a new capitalist market, clubs simply have to sell their best players to survive.

National manager Andrzej Strejlau will have to pull his far-flung side together for their next World Cup match, against San Marino on April 29, before the big test against England at the end of May.

The Polish side look relatively set under Everton's Robert Warzycha, and are expected to pummel San Marino.

Andi Rudy and Andi Koylanski, both with Koln, could be used together up front.

When the First Division restarted after the traditional three-month winter break, the biggest crowd of the day (about 10,000) was in Warsaw's Legia Stadium, where Legia Warsaw beat LKS Lodz 2-0.

The teams, playing on a frozen pitch in bitter weather, were never going to play attractive football, and the game degenerated into ferocious kicking and both teams had two men sent off.

Legia's win pushed them to fourth, three points behind leaders and champions Lech Poznan, who drew away to relegation candidates Slask Wroclaw.

The two Lodz teams, LKS and Widzew, complete the top four.

JAMES **WALKER**

CZECH REPUBLIC

Sparta stay on course

ONLY the bottom club of the "All Czecho-Slovak" League, Bohemians, lost when football resumed in the last "combined championship."

Slavia showed their Czech mates the way with a comfortable home victory over Inter Bratislava in their 64th and last League meeting.

Tatacuk (8), Kuka (42) and Berger (48) had sealed the points with less than an hour played while Inter's Moravec had the first red card of the second half of the season.

Sparta with Slovan drew at an ice-bound Tehelne Pole in Bratislava to stay on course for the title while Dukla surprisingly brought back the bacon from Southern Bohemia.

An average of 4,888 attended the eight First Division games.

SLOVAKIA

VENGLOS IS FAVOURITE

BEHIND the scenes the newly-set-up Slovak Federation prepare for the days after the last championship with the Czech clubs.

Discussions continue with UEFA and FIFA and international games are unlikely to be arranged until the Combined Czechoslovak XI knows whether or not they have qualified for the 1994 World Cup.

Joe Venglos remains the favourite for the team manager's post once he returns from Fenerbahce in Turkey but perhaps he could be better employed as federation president, as one of the few Slovaks with a finger in European and World soccer pies.

Venglos is not the youngest of those sitting on international benches but knows his way round Zurich, Berne and a few other places.

The men in Bratislava have, however, decided on the new Slovak League arrangements in 1993-94.

There will be a national championship of 12 clubs in which current top-grade outfits Slovan, Dunajska Streda, Nitra, Presov, Inter and Trnava will be joined by a further six from the current Second Division.

BOB **VAUGHAN**

GEORGIA

Champions pay price of civil unrest

CURRENT civil unrest in Georgia has had a devastating effect on the League Championship, which resumed on March 18.

Three clubs, Kolkheti Khobi, Amirani Ochamchira and Mziuri Gali, had to withdraw because of an inability to stage home matches or even to train properly. They have an automatic right to rejoin the First Division next season when, hopefully, the country will be at peace again.

Last season's League and Cup runners-up, Tskhumi, have been badly hit. They have only staged one game in their home town of Sukhumi, and all home matches are being played in Tskhaltubo.

Form has slumped drastically, and the team have only four points from 16 matches.

The leaders are Dinamo Tbilisi (they have changed their name back after being known as Iberia for one season), former Georgian representatives in the Soviet Supreme League.

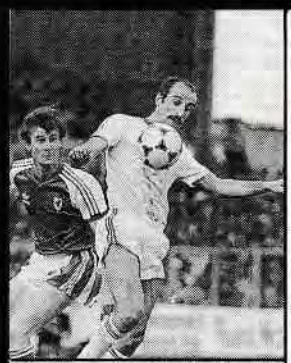
They have 40 points from 16 games, eight more than Alazani Gurdzhaani and Margveti Zestafoni.

The 1992 Player of the Year was David Kizilashvili of sixth-placed Shevardeni, and the Manager of the Year was Anatolii Norakidze, who combines his job at Torpedo Kutaisa with that of national team manager.

During the winter break the national team lost 1-0 to Cyprus, but defeated two cross-sides, Olimpiakos of Nicosia (2-0) and Anorthosis Famagusta (4-0).

Former Dinamo Tblisi favourites David Kipiani and Vladimir Gutsaev are now in charge of these teams.

ROY **KITS**



Kipiani . . . coaching in Cyprus.

GEORGIA (Half-way stage)

	P	W	D	L	F
Dinamo Tblisi	16	13	1	2	38
Alazani Gurdzhaani	16	10	2	4	33
Margveti Zestafoni	16	10	2	4	31
Gorda Rustavi	16	9	4	3	46
Kolkheti-1913	16	9	3	4	30
Shevardeni-1906	16	9	2	5	34
Torpedo Kutaisi	16	8	2	6	29
Samgurali Tskhaltubo	16	7	4	5	35
Batumi	16	7	2	7	27
Kakheti Telavi	16	6	3	7	25
Guriya Lanchkhuti	16	6	2	8	10
Dila Gori	16	6	2	8	22
Mretebi Tbilisi	16	6	1	9	21
Samtredia	16	5	3	8	17
Iveria Khashuri	16	5	1	10	18
Tskhumi Sukhumi	16	1	1	14	25
Odishi Zugdidi	16	1	1	14	18

Kolkheti Koki, Amirani Ochamchira and Mziuri Gali have withdrawn due to civil unrest.

BYELORUSSIA

Mikhail remains an optimist

THE national team had a three-week tour to South America as part of their preparation for the 1996 European Championship.

They drew 1-1 against Ecuador in Guayaquil and against Peru in Lima, then took second place in an Argentine tournament at Cordoba, losing on penalties to Belgrano, after a 1-1 draw in the final.

They also beat Club Argentina of Monte-Mais 3-0 and Peru's Sporting Cristal 2-1, lost 5-1 in Medellin to Colombia's Independiente, and drew 0-0 against Junior of Barranquilla.

Minsk Dynamo striker Valeri Velichko, wanted by Sheffield United and Sporting Gijon, was the tour's top marksman together with his club-mate Sergei Gerasimets, scoring three times each.

Byelorussian boss Mikhail Vergeenko had included 14 players from champions, Minsk Dynamo, but said: "We never played 3-5-2 as Minsk Dynamo usually do. We had only one striker in the games. Lack of international experience is a problem, but our national team have reasons to be optimistic."

Minsk Dynamo led the League table again with 30 points after 16 games, scoring 45 goals and conceding only eight.

Byelorus of Minsk were second, seven points behind.

VLADIMIR **KALINKOVICH**

ROMANIA

Tiring trek to trouble

NATIONAL coach Cornel Dinu has been touring foreign parts with his squad.

In 1970 there seemed some sense in such a tour, but is this the right preparation for qualifying games with Cyprus in Bucharest, and away to the Czechoslovaks?

Dinu's 42-day North, South and Central American trip may rebound on him if the Cypriots are not comprehensively seen off on April 14 and contact maintained with the Belgians.

They could do Romania a favour by winning in Wales and virtually eliminating one of the contenders for second spot.

A victory in Czechoslovakia at the end of the season would be the ideal way to open the door to the US, where Dinu's team could only draw 1-1 on their tour.

Defeats in Mexico (2-0) and Ecuador (3-0) did not help the manager and his only success was a win in Peru (2-0).

A long list of injuries, tired players and a poor image abroad all resulted. Hosts were not amused by the absence of the foreign-based Romanian players.

Dinu has some compensation in that he tested Filipescu, Stinga, Cristescu and Ceaucila, who could come into the reckoning for the Cyprus tie. But 40 players were tried in ten games last season without entirely satisfactory results.

BOB **VAUGHAN**

RUSSIA

SPIRIN SCANDAL

TOP Russian referee Alexei Spirin has been involved in a scandal and has had his name removed from both the UEFA and national list of officials.

Spirin, who handled the opening match in the 1992 European Championship, is alleged to have taken money from Torino after the UEFA Cup game with Norrkoping of Sweden last October.

He claims that the money was to cover the cost of his flight from Moscow to Italy.

He had to borrow from friends to buy a ticket because, he says, the Russian Association of Football Referees did not have sufficient to pay for the trip.

Spirin was unable to officiate in the first CIS Champions' Cup, played indoors in Moscow during the winter break, while his appeal was being considered.

Moscow Spartak won the event — and 17,500 US dollars — but there was another upset when Ukraine withdrew just before the start.

They refused to take part in a tournament run by the Russian Football Union, claiming that to do so would be "humiliating".

The new League season began in March and will run until November.

Five teams will be relegated with only three being promoted.

Omari Tetradze, Moscow Dynamo's international midfielder, was put out of action with a broken jaw.

He claims that he was attacked by police officers after he had been unable to produce any proof of his identity.

Team manager Valeri Gazzayev arrived and took the player to hospital.

VICTOR **GUS**

Spirin . . . removed from list

GREECE

Farcical! Coaches do not have a chance

IF you do not win everything in sight, fire the coach!

That is the so-called system in Greece, exposed in all its futility by the recent game of Oleg-Ludo.

Oleg Blokhin, a vastly-experienced export from the former Soviet Union, was sacked as coach of Olympiakos. Around the same time, PAOK told Liubomir Petrovic that his time was up — even though both clubs were among the League leaders at the time and Blokhin had taken his squad to the Cup-winners' Cup quarter-finals.

The situation became even more farcical when both victims of the system found new jobs . . . Oleg taking over from Lubo at PAOK, and Lubo replacing Oleg at Olympiakos.

Each is now the 17th holder of his latest club's job in a mere 14 years, but even that is not a record: Aris Salonika have had 19 coaches in the same period.

One coach, Nikos Alefantos, has been with 16 clubs in those 14 seasons.

Engen Gerard is the longest-serving team boss in Greece, having been at OFI Crete for eight years.

Ivica Osim, Croation coach of Panathinaikos, said: "Life here is difficult. You don't know what's in store each morning."

Jacek Gmoch, a Pole who preceded Osim, had more reason than most to complain about his treatment. In two years he took Panathinaikos to the League title and the Greek Cup, and to the quarter-finals of the Champions' Cup, and even that did not save him from the sack.

Coaches in Greece have a union, but that seems to make no difference. The latest double shuffle, brought the season's sackings to eight out of 16 in the First Division alone.

Olympiakos recalled Antonis Georgiadis, who had been sacked in 1987, but hundreds of protesting fans caused such a rumpus that he had to leave the ground by a back exit.

He promptly decided to give up the chance of taking up his old job — hence the call to Petrovic.

AEK Athens led the table by two points from Panathinaikos after 24 games, in what had become a two-horse race.

LOU **ECONOMOPOULOS**

TURKEY

Tanju at the top again

TANJU COLAK has been outstanding in recent Turkish soccer affairs, scoring goals with all his old freedom.

Yet Tanju, the Fenerbahce striker, is doing so under threat. He has appealed against a nine-year gaol sentence for customs irregularities, and has been freed to carry on his career pending a decision.

Although he missed six matches during the initial hearings of the case, he still scored 19 times in 15 League appearances, including six in a match against Karsiyaka and three against Konyaspor.

With Cocaman Aykut scoring 14, Fenerbahce shot to the top of the table on goal difference from champions Besiktas, 58-24 compared with 48-18.

Aykut (26) and Tanju (23) helped Fenerbahce to a total of 81 goals in the 30-game programme last season, but Besiktas won the title. Gordon Milne's team are still as tight as ever in defence, and have lost only once in their last 51 League games.

A 7-0 thrashing of Konyaspor (bottom with an average of three goals against in every match) showed that they too can take their chances.

Galatasaray were third three points behind the top two, but Kocaelispor slipped after their splendid opening, losing 3-1 at home to Sariyer and then drawing twice.

HASAN **CEMALI**

MALTA

Ally causes an upset

MALTESE football authorities have begun an investigation into allegations of corruption in the game.

Ally Dawson, now manager of St. Andrew's, claims that he was grossly misinterpreted in a newspaper article coinciding with the Scotland v Malta World Cup qualifier.

Dawson, a former player with Rangers, "wrote" that Maltese soccer was "one of the most corrupt in Europe".

Not surprisingly manager Pippo Psaila and his squad were upset, but were far from disgraced in a 3-0 defeat.

"You need regular top football in your domestic events to be able to compete with top teams," said Psaila.

DOMENICO **AQUILINA**

PORTUGAL

Benfica find new strength

A NEW situation emerged in the League when Porto, the leaders, lost at home to modest Famalicao.

That cut their difference in points to only two, and Benfica, in second place, appear now in a strong position. Sporting Lisbon are still in contention as well.

All eyes are now on the closing fixtures when the OK Corral will repeat itself.

Benfica will play Sporting on March 21, and Bobby Robson takes his team to face Porto on April 10.

Then, on the 18th, Porto visit Lisbon for the showdown with Benfica.

What has happened at Benfica during the past six months amounts to far more than a football team being able to get so close to their main rivals.

Tomislav Ivic was sacked and replaced by his No. 2, Toni. We saw then the beginnings of a certain, hesitant, attempt at stabilisation.

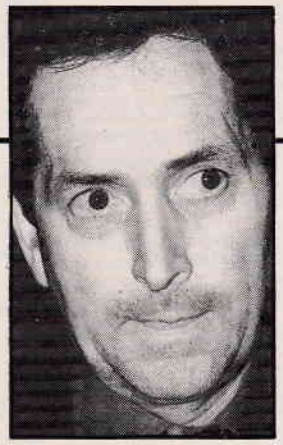
Then it all began to fall in place and the arrival of Futre, even if not being translated into immediate results, produced something Benfica needed: the mobilisation of their large human resources. Today one can detect a new atmosphere.

No wonder. With Futre and young Joao Pinto playing on the wings, with Paulo Sousa ruling the midfield and with the Brazilian Mozer in full command of the defence, the Lisbon Eagles have rebuilt their team.

ALBERTO **DA SILVA**

ISRAEL

SHLOMO FEELS THE PRESSURE



ISRAELI football has taken on a Jekyll and Hyde look over the past month, with improved standards and crowds at League games somewhat overshadowed by the latest dismal performance of the national team in the World Cup qualifiers.

A 4-0 home defeat by France leaves Israel rooted at the bottom with four straight losses and an unenviable 3-14 goal difference.

French coach Gerard Houillier's post-match comment — "Your team are in the learning stage" — was kind, but reactions in the local media to coach Shlomo Scharf (left) were less favourable.

One headline on the morning after the fiasco was: "What the hell do you do with them in training Shlomo?"

Scharf has said he will not resign, but he is unlikely to continue if the results against Sweden and Finland go the same way.

There is an exciting tussle at the top of the table, with five teams chasing the title.

Betar Jerusalem continue to lead, with impressive youngster Ronen Harazi showing the kind of form that indicates a fine future.

Champions Maccabi Tel Aviv, despite playing well below last season's form, are second, with Bnei Yehuda third and making most of the headlines.

This small club, based in the Yemenite quarter of south Tel Aviv, has been a revelation, with home-grown youngsters Haim Revivo and Alon Mizrahi in particularly good form. Mizrahi leads the First Division scorers with 15 goals.

The clash with Betar Jerusalem was switched from Bnei Yehuda's compact Hatikva ground to the National Stadium, an more than 45,000 fans — Israeli League record — saw a pulsating double header, with Bnei Yehud winning 3-1 and Maccab Tel Aviv and Maccabi Ha drawing 1-1.

One of the nicest surprises of the season the re-emergence of Hap Beersheba as a force in local football. The Negev club, twice champions in the 70's, reached the top four with some neat attacking football under coach Vicky Hadad.

MARK RIV

TABLES

MALTA

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Floriana	13	9	2	2	21	[illegible]
Hamrun Sptns	13	8	1	4	33	[illegible]
St Andrew's	13	6	4	3	33	[illegible]
Valletta	12	7	2	3	20	[illegible]
Hibernians	13	6	3	4	29	[illegible]
Sliema Wand.	13	6	1	6	20	[illegible]
Birkirkara	13	4	3	6	16	[illegible]
Rabat Ajax	13	4	3	6	17	[illegible]
Mellieha	13	2	1	10	9	[illegible]
St George's	12	1	2	9	9	[illegible]

ISRAEL

	P	W	D	L	F
Betar Jerusalem	22	14	3	5	37
Maccabi Tel Aviv	22	12	6	4	48
Bnei Yehuda	22	12	4	6	43
Hap. Beersheba	22	10	7	5	34
Maccabi Haifa	22	9	8	5	40
Hapoel Haifa	22	8	6	8	26
Hapoel Tel Aviv	22	8	5	9	37
Maccabi PT	22	6	9	7	33
Maccabi Netanya	22	6	5	11	26
Betar Tel Aviv	22	5	5	12	22
Hapoel Holon	22	5	4	13	29
Hapoel PT	22	4	4	14	24

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A
AEK Athens	24	17	6	1	53	[illegible]
Panathinaikos	24	17	4	3	59	[illegible]
Olympiakos	24	13	7	4	44	[illegible]
Heraklis	24	13	6	5	39	[illegible]
OFI Crete	23	13	5	5	43	[illegible]
PAOK	24	11	4	9	39	[illegible]
Aris Salonika	24	10	5	9	29	[illegible]
Apollon	24	9	4	11	21	[illegible]
Athinaikos	24	6	11	7	21	[illegible]
Panachaiki	24	7	7	10	26	[illegible]
Larissa	24	7	7	10	20	[illegible]
Xanthi	24	7	7	10	40	[illegible]
Doxa	24	6	8	10	25	[illegible]
Edessaikos	23	6	5	12	29	[illegible]
Kalamaria	24	4	10	10	21	[illegible]
Corinthos	24	4	8	12	21	[illegible]
Ionikos	24	4	6	14	19	[illegible]
Pierikos	24	3	6	15	20	[illegible]

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A
FC Porto	23	17	3	3	45	[illegible]
Benfica	23	15	5	3	40	[illegible]
Sporting	23	12	7	4	36	[illegible]
Boavista	23	9	9	5	25	[illegible]
Farense	23	8	8	7	27	[illegible]
Belenenses	23	8	8	7	24	[illegible]
Maritimo	23	9	5	9	33	[illegible]
Gil Vicente	23	9	5	9	25	[illegible]
Famalicao	23	7	9	7	19	[illegible]
Beira-Mar	23	6	9	8	15	[illegible]
Braga	23	8	4	11	20	[illegible]
Espinho	23	7	6	10	24	[illegible]
Pacos Ferreira	23	7	6	10	23	[illegible]
Salgueiros	23	6	8	9	19	[illegible]
Guimaraes	23	8	3	12	24	[illegible]
Estoril	23	6	7	10	23	[illegible]
Tirsense	23	5	7	11	16	[illegible]
Chaves	23	3	5	15	23	[illegible]

TURKEY

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Fenerbahce	21	14	4	3	58	[illegible]
Besiktas	21	13	7	1	48	[illegible]
Galatasaray	21	13	4	4	43	[illegible]
Kocaelispor	21	12	6	3	47	[illegible]
Trabzonspor	21	11	8	2	37	[illegible]
Bursaspor	21	10	5	6	32	[illegible]
Ankaragucu	21	8	4	9	34	[illegible]
Genclerbirligi	21	6	6	9	24	[illegible]
Sariyer	21	6	5	10	26	[illegible]
Kayserispor	21	5	8	8	19	[illegible]
Gaziantepspor	21	6	4	11	24	[illegible]
Altay	21	6	4	11	20	[illegible]
Bakirkoyspor	21	5	3	13	29	[illegible]
Aydinspor	21	4	6	11	15	[illegible]
Karsiyaka	21	3	8	10	23	[illegible]
Konyaspor	21	1	8	12	23	[illegible]

The Italian dream

BRIAN GLANVILLE . . .
the leading authority on Italian football

Calcio

The agony and the ecstasy

FOOTBALL in Italy is a kind of substitute religion. Well may fans be called *tifosi*, a word with its origin in *tifo*, a deadly disease.

Trevor Francis, who played with distinction for Sampdoria and Atalanta, once told me that no one who hadn't lived in Italy could possibly imagine the importance of the *partita*, the Sunday game.

He and his family have good enough cause to appreciate it. Once, when he missed a penalty kick for Sampdoria in Genoa, his car was stoned as it left the ground. Next day, when his wife Helen went shopping, she was asked by women she knew how her husband was. "Very well," she answered. "Well he shouldn't be," was the retort.

How and why soccer should have taken such a grip on the Italian soul is hard to explain. Suffice it that it has. That when things go wrong on the field, the fans of Lazio and Napoli have recently been known to attack their own players, at the training ground.

Hand in hand with the explosion of football since the war has gone what's called *commendatorismo*, the worship of the Big Man. Gianni Agnelli has not for years been titular president of Juventus but, as the boss of Fiat and one of the most powerful men in Italy, everybody knows who calls the shots. So after every game he attends, Agnelli is surrounded by fawning journalists, hanging on his every word, some of them quite banal, some foolishly provocative, such as when he called the Polish attacker Zibi Boniek *bello di notte*, night time beauty, because Boniek played well only in floodlit European games. A properly disgruntled Boniek took off for Roma, to Juve's cost.

Vittorio Pozzo, Grand Old Man of Italian football, Anglophile who learned his tactics in England before the Great War, winner of the World Cup in 1934 and 1938, was wont to lament the spivs, *nouveaux riches* and opportunists who came flooding into football after the war. Agnelli was not one of them, but there have been plenty.

Milan have had their share. One president after another, before the vastly successful but controversial Silvio Berlusconi, bit the dust. There was the president who fled to Lebanon, after massive fraud and the closing of his factories, the one who made his fortune in the war selling black market cigarettes, the one who went bust and was impugned for tax evasion, the one who bought a match from Lazio, who resulted in the club's forced relegation.

With so much money sluicing about, Italian clubs have always been able to attract the best players in the world. But only quite recently has the native game come out of the cold grip of *catenaccio* with its sweeper, its man-to-man marking, its dour emphasis on counter attack. Plus the truly shocking record of the corruption of referees in European football in which Internazionale, kings of *catenaccio* under Helenio Herrera, had the worst record of all, but self-preening Juventus, pseudo aristocrats, were the ones to be found out.

Now, thanks to the spreading of zonal defence, the impetus given by Milan under Arrigo Sacchi then Fabio Capello, Italy's innumerable stars can express themselves. In front of *tifosi* whose dramatic spread of banners, whose multi-coloured smoke screens before big names, add to a unique spectacle.

ERG
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GUIDE TO SERIE A

ANCONA

Ancona Calcio
Via Maratta 39
1-60123 Ancona
Tel: 71-35673-35395
Fax: 71-35395
The Coach: Vicenzo GUERINI

THE SQUAD

Player	P	Birth	Previous Club
Davide MICILLO	G	17.04.71	Juventus
Alessandro NISTA	G	10.07.65	—
Andrea BRUNIERA	D	10.02.64	Udinese
Giovanni DEOGRATIAS	D	03.01.61	Rimini
Stefano FONTANA	D	26.10.65	Piacenza
Roberto LORENZINI	D	09.07.66	Como
Salvatore MAZZARANO	D	04.07.65	Fasano
Paolo SIROTI	D	28.02.71	Maceratese
Sean SOGLIANO	D	28.02.71	Varese
Felice CENTOFANTI	M	23.05.69	Palermo
Gianluca DE ANGELIS	M	07.09.67	Civitanese
Lajos DETARI	M	24.04.63	Bologna
Franco ERMINI	M	13.08.61	Sambenedettese
Massimo GADDA	M	16.09.63	Reggiana
Fabio LUPO	M	11.10.64	—
Marco Scanio PECORARO	M	24.12.62	Salernitana
Sebastiano VECCHIOLA	M	23.05.70	Sambenedettese
Massimo AGOSTINI	A	19.01.64	Parma
Nicola CACCIA	A	16.04.70	Bari/Modena
Massimiliano FANESI	A	17.02.72	Ternana
Stefano TURCHI	A	13.01.69	—

● ***THE 1992-93 SEASON REPRESENTS ANCONA'S FIRST EVER IN THE FIRST DIVISION.***
For them, the De Coubertin philosophy of "taking part" holds good.
Unfortunately, given results obtained so far, it would seem that it will be some time before they take part again. Despite some fine performances from their talented Hungarian Lajos Detari, they are on their way back to Serie B.

ATALANTA

Atalanta Bergamasca Calcio Spa
Via Scotti 26
1-24100 Bergamo
Tel: 35-242555
Fax: 35-239677
The Coach: Marcello LIPPI

THE SQUAD

Player	P	Birth	Previous Club
Fabrizio FERRON	G	05.09.65	Sambenedettese
Davide PINTAO	G	15.03.64	Piacenza
Tebaldo BIGLIARDI	D	05.02.63	Napoli
Stefano DE ANGELIS	D	14.02.73	—
Claudio MASCHERETTI	D	31.01.70	Palazzolo
Paolo MONTERO	D	03.09.71	Penarol (Urg)
Luigino PASCIULLO	D	18.02.61	Empoli
Sergio PORRINI	D	08.11.68	Milan
Eanuele TRESOLDI	D	20.11.73	Spal
Mauro VALENTINI	D	04.01.64	Cagliari
Ricardo ALEMAO	M	22.11.61	Napoli
Roberto BORDIN	M	10.01.65	Cesnea
Matteo CAPECCHI	M	21.09.74	—
Simone CARMINATI	M	01.12.73	—
Stefano DE AGOSTINI	M	25.10.64	Napoli
Oscar MAGONI	M	22.09.67	Leffe
Giuseppe MINAUDO	M	22.03.67	Ancona
Domenico MORFEO	M	16.01.76	—
Carlo PERRONE	M	08.07.60	Bari
Leo RODRIGUEZ	M	27.08.66	Toulon (Fra)
Massimilano CAPPELLINI	A	21.01.71	Piacenza
Maurizio GANZ	A	13.10.68	Brescia
Federico PISANI	A	25.07.74	—
Roberto RAMBAUDI	A	12.01.66	Foggia
Ivan VALENCIANO	A	18.03.72	J. Barranquilla (Col)

● ***WITHOUT DOUBT, THE BIGGEST SURPRISE OF THE SEASON.***
For a "provinciale" whose primary seasonal target is First Division survival, they have done spectacularily well to stay up there with the leaders. Sharp shooting from striker Maurizio Ganz and solid defensive work from Uruguyan Paolo Montero and Brazilian Alemao lie at the heart of their success.

Cagliari's Uruguayan forward Enzo Francescoli (above).

Ancona defender Sean Sogliano battles with Juventus forward Roberto Baggio (left).

Brescia defender Marco Rossi battles with two Juventus players (top).

Atalanta coach Marcello Lippi (above).

Atalanta's Argentine midfielder Leo Rodriguez (right).

CAGLIARI

Cagliari Calcio Spa
Viale Bonaria 66
1-09128 Cagliari
Tel:70-666013
Fax:70-654059
The Coach: Carlo MAZZONE

THE SQUAD

Player	P	Birth	Previous Club
Nicola DI BITONTO	G	01.05.66	Barletta
Mario IELPO	G	08.06.63	Lazio
Gianluca FESTA	D	12.03.69	—
Aldo FIRICANO	D	12.03.67	Udinese
Nicolo NAPOLI	D	07.02.62	Juventus
Luigi PANCARO	D	26.08.71	Avezzano
Vittorio PUSCEDDU	D	12.02.64	Napoli
Matteo VILLA	D	23.01.70	Reggiana
James WILSON	D	18.01.72	—
Pier Paolo BISOLI	M	20.11.66	Viareggio
Massimiliano CAPPIOLI	M	17.01.68	Roma
Enzo FRANCESCOLI	M	12.11.61	Marseille (Fra)
Gianluca GAUDENZI	M	28.12.65	Milan
Jose HERRERA	M	17.06.65	Figueras (Por)
Gianofranco MATTEOLI	M	21.04.59	Inter
Marco SANNA	M	27.12.69	Tempio
Marcelo TEJERA	M	06.08.73	Defensor (Uru)
Giorgio BRESCIANI	A	23.04.69	Torino
Antonio CRINITI	A	28.10.70	Catanzaro
Francesco MORIERO	A	31.03.69	Lecce
Luis Barroso OLIVEIRA	A	24.03.69	Anderlecht (Bel)

● ***ANOTHER OF THE ALLEGEDLY "PROVINCIALE" SIDES THAT HAS DONE MUCH BETTER THAN WEALTHIER CITY COUSINS.***
Cagliari's fine season owes much to coach Carlo Mazzone, Uruguyan Enzo Francescoli and midfield schemer Gianfranco Matteoli.
Mazzone's success may earn him a prestigious job next season, perhaps with AS Roma.

BRESCIA

Brescia Calcio SpA
Via Bazoli 6
1-25126 Brescia
Tel: 30-241751
Fax: 30-2410787
The Coach: Mircea LUCESCU

THE SQUAD

Player	P	Birth	Previous Club
Nello CUSIN	G	12.03.65	—
Marco LANDUCCI	G	25.03.64	Lucchese
Antonio VETTORE	G	15.02.60	Cosenza
Edoardo BORTOLOTTI	D	08.01.70	Trento
Luca BRUNETTI	D	10.11.64	Taranto
Gianni FLAMIGNI	D	15.08.69	—
Paolo NEGRO	D	16.04.72	Bologna
Massimo PAGANIN	D	19.07.70	Reggiana
Marco ROSSI	D	09.09.64	Catanzaro
Paolo ZILIANI	D	10.06.71	—
Stefano BONOMETTI	M	30.12.61	Ancona
Luciano DE PAOLA	M	30.05.61	Cagliari
Sergio DOMINI	M	11.03.61	Lazio
Fabio GALLO	M	11.09.70	Spezia
Massimo GIANNELLI	M	10.03.70	Ospitaletto
Salvatore GIUNTA	M	13.04.67	Como
Gheorghe HAGI	M	25.02.65	Real Madrid (Spa)
Nicola MARANGON	M	14.04.71	Ospitaletto
Giambattista OLIVARI	M	16.06.70	Ospitaletto
Allesandro QUAGGIOTTO	M	04.01.62	Pescara
Ioan SABAU	M	12.02.68	Feyenoord (Hol)
Marco SCHENARDI	M	03.03.68	Bologna
Francesco PASSIATORE	A	22.07.71	—
Marco PIOVANELLI	A	07.04.74	—
Florin RADUCIOIU	A	17.03.70	Verona
Giampaolo SAURINI	A	13.11.68	Lazio

● ***COULD BE RENAMED "LITTLE ROMANIA"*** *in that Romanian coach Mircea Lucescu opted to sign three compatriots — Florin Raducioiu, Georghe Hagi and Ioan Sabau — to shore up a side whose seasonal target is mere First Division survival.*
Despite their negative sounding intentions, however, Brescia have looked by far the best of the relegation battlers.

FIORENTINA

A.C. Fiorentina
Piazza Fra'Girolamo Savonarola 6
1-50132 Firenz
Tel: 55-572625/6/7/8
Fax: 881-291 16
The Coach: Aldo AGROPPI

THE SQUAD

Player	P	Birth	Previous Club
Emiliano BETTI	G	15.02.72	—
Alessandro MANNINI	G	26.08.57	Pescara
Gian Matteo MAREGGINI	G	08.01.67	Carrarese
Daniele CARNASCIALI	D	06.09.66	Brescia
Stefano CAROBBI	D	16.01.64	Milan
Antonio DELL'OGLIO	D	19.06.63	Ascoli
Mario FACCENDA	D	23.11.60	Pisa
Massimiliano FIONDELLA	D	13.07.68	—
Gianluca LUPPI	D	23.08.66	Juventus
Alberto MALUSCI	D	23.06.72	—
Stefano PIOLI	D	19.10.65	Verona
Rufo Emiliano VERGA	D	21.12.69	Lazio
Fabrizio DI AMURO	M	18.06.65	Roma
Stefan EFFENBERG	M	02.08.68	Bayern Munich (Ger)
Daniele GIRALDI	M	06.11.74	—
Giuseppe IACHINI	M	07.07.64	—
Stefano LACCHI	M	03.08.73	—
Brian LAUDRUP	M	22.02.69	Bayern Munich (Ger)
Massimo ORLANDO	M	26.05.71	Juventus
Stefano SALVATORI	M	29.12.67	—
Francesco BAIANO	A	24.02.68	Foggia
Gabriel BATISTUTA	A	01.02.69	Boca Juniors (Arg)
Daniele BELTRAMMI	A	09.03.74	—

AN OBJECT LESSON FOR THOSE WITH MORE MONEY THAN FOOTBALLING SENSE, FIORENTINA WILL SPEND THE REST OF THE SEASON FIGHTING TO AVOID RELEGATION WHEN THEIR ORIGINAL TARGET WAS TO WIN A UEFA CUP PLACE.
The sacking in January of experienced coach Gigi Radice, replaced by Aldo Agroppi, has aggravated the problems of an unbalanced squad and proved that club owners, the Cecchi Gori family, should stick to what they do best — producing films.

FOGGIA

Foggia Calcio SpA
Via Gen. Torelli 4
1-71100 Foggia
Tel: 881-672122
Fax: 881-29116
The Coach: Zdenek ZEMAN

THE SQUAD

Player	P	Birth	Previous Club
Mauro BACCHIN	G	27.10.69	Barletta
Francesco MANCINI	G	10.10.68	Matera
David BIANCHINI	D	23.07.71	Lodigiani
Giordano CAINI	D	28.03.69	Catania
Giuseppe DI BARI	D	17.11.69	Bisceglie
Giuseppe FORNACIARI	D	27.07.67	Barletta
Salvatore FRESI	D	18.01.73	—
Donatello GASPARINI	D	29.07.71	Pro Sesto
Gualtiero GRANDINI	D	06.10.67	Messina
Gianluca GRASSADONIA	D	25.05.72	Salernitana
Dan PETRESCU	D	22.12.67	Steaua (Rom)
Fabio TROCCOLI	D	03.01.74	—
Oberdan BIAGIONI	M	17.10.69	Cosenza
PasqualeDE VINCENZO	M	12.02.68	Reggina
Luigi DI BIAGIO	M	03.06.71	Monza
Pierluigi NICOLI	M	06.04.66	Catania
Nicolo SCIACCA	M	24.11.68	Trapani
Andrea SENO	M	01.02.66	Como
Pierpaolo BRESCIANI	A	21.07.70	Palermo
Igor KOLYVANOV	A	06.03.68	Moscow Dyn. (Rus)
Paolo MANDELLI	A	04.12.67	Monza
Herman MEDFORD	A	23.05.68	Rayo Vallecano (Spa)
Giovanni PISANO	A	05.10.68	Leonzio

GENOA

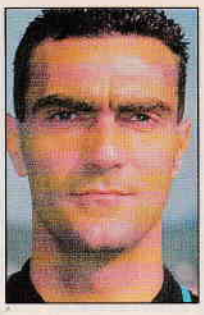
Genova 1893 SpA
Via Roma 7/3
1-16121Genova
Tel:L 10-540547/8
Fax: 10-580791
The Coach: Claudio MASSELLI

THE SQUAD

Player	P	Birth	Previous Club
Giampaolo SPAGNULO	G	26.09.64	Pisa
Stefano TACCONI	G	13.05.57	Juventus
Claudio BRANCO	D	04.04.64	FC Porto (Por)
Nicola CARICOLA	D	13.02.63	Juventus
Luca CAVALLAO	D	19.05.73	—
Fulvio COLLOVATI	D	09.05.57	Roma
Armando FERRONI	D	03.04.61	—
Andrea FORTUNATO	D	26.07.71	Pisa
Christian PANUCCI	D	12.04.73	—
Fabio ROSSI	D	06.04.71	Massese
Gianluca SIGNORINI	D	17.03.60	Roma
Vincenzo TORRENTE	D	12.02.66	Nocerina
Andrea BIANCHI	M	04.02.69	Lucchese
Mario BORTOLAZZI	M	10.01.65	—
Valeriano FIORIN	M	27.09.66	Parma
Davide NICOLA	M	05.03.73	—
Roberto ONORATI	M	05.02.66	Avellino
Gennaro RUOTOLO	M	20.03.67	Arezzo
Elio SIGNORELLI	M	07.03.70	Casertana
Roberto ARCO	A	05.03.74	—
Maurizio IORIO	A	06.06.59	Inter
Michele PADOVANO	A	28.08.66	Napoli
Tomas SKUHRAVY	A	07.09.65	Sparta (Cze)
Johnny VAN'T SCHIP	A	30.12.63	Ajax (Hol)

ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF HOW NOT TO RUN A FOOTBALL CLUB.
Two coaches (Bruno Giorgi and Gigi Maifredi) sacked, expensive foreign purchases such as Russian Igor Dobrovolski parked outside the country and some of the least well behaved fans in the country suggest an unhappy atmosphere.
New man in charge, Claudio Maselli, will do well to keep them in the First Division.

CZECH COACH ZDENEK ZEMAN HAS ONCE AGAIN WORKED MIRACLES WITH A SQUAD FORMED OF PLAYERS BOUGHT FROM SECOND AND THIRD DIVISION SIDES LAST SUMMER, A SQUAD WHICH ALTOGETHER COST THREE MILLION DOLLARS LESS THAN MILAN SPENT ON GIGI LENTINI.
Ex-Como player Andrea Seno, Romanian Dan Petrescu and Russian Igor Kolivanov have done well in a side that will probably last a third consecutive season in "Serie A".



Internazionale and Italy full-back Giuseppe Bergomi (above).

Foggia striker Pierpaolo Bresciani in action against Milan (below left).

Genoa's Andrea Fortunato (hoops) battles with Fiorentina's Danish forward Brian Laudrup (below).

Two Juventus regulars . . . German midfielder Andreas Moller (above, right) and Italian international striker Pierluigi Casiraghi (above, far right).

INTERNAZIONALE

Internazionale Milan F.C.
Piazza Duse 1
1-20122 Milan
Tel: 2-782531/2/3/4/5
Fax: 2-781514
The Coach: Osvaldo BAGNOLI

THE SQUAD

Player	P	Birth	Previous Club
Beniamino ABATE	G	10.22.62	Messina
Walter ZENGA	G	28.05.60	Sambenedettese
Sergio BATTISTINI	D	07.05.63	Fiorentina
Giuseppe BERGOMI	D	22.12.63	—
Luigi DE AGOSTINI	D	07.04.61	Juventus
Riccardo FERRI	D	20.08.63	—
Marcello MONTANARI	D	25.09.65	—
Antonio PAGANIN	D	18.06.66	Udinese
Stefano ROSSINI	D	02.02.71	Udinese
Paolo TRAMEZZANI	D	30.07.70	Lucchese
Marco BAROLLO	M	31.07.72	Lecce
Nicola BERTI	M	14.04.67	Fiorentina
Alessandro BIANCHI	M	07.04.66	Cesena
Stefano DESIDERI	M	03.07.65	Roma
Antonio MANICONE	M	27.10.66	Udinese
Giuseppe MARINO	M	01.05.69	Taranto
Angelo ORLANDO	M	11.08.65	Udinese
Igor SHALIMOV	M	02.02.69	Foggia
Davide FONTOLAN	A	24.02.66	Genoa
Darko PANCEV	A	17.09.65	Red Star (Yug)
Salvatore SCHILLACI	A	01.12.64	Juventus
Ruben SOSA	A	25.04.66	Lazio

THE BEST BUY MADE BY THE "OTHER" MILANESE CLUB LAST SUMMER WAS THAT OF COACH OSVALDO BAGNOLI, WHOSE GRITTY, TOUGH AND DETERMINED WAYS HAVE MOLDED THE SIDE INTO THE SECOND BEST (ADMITTEDLY, A LONG WAY SECOND) IN THE LAND.
Uruguyan Ruben Sosa, Russian Igor Shalimov and Nicola Berti have been their strongest cards.

JUVENTUS

Juventus F.B.C.
Piazza Crimea 7
1-10131 Torino
Tel: 11-65631
Fax: 11-6604134
The Coach: Giovanni TRAPATTONI

THE SQUAD

Player	P	Birth	Previous Club
Angelo PERUZZI	G	16.02.70	Roma
Michelangelo RAMPULLA	G	10.08.62	Cremonese
Dino BAGGIO	D	24.07.71	Inter
Massimo CARRERA	D	22.04.64	Bari
Marco Antonio DE MARCHI	D	08.09.66	Roma
JULIO CESAR Silva	D	08.03.63	Montpellier (Fra)
Jurgen KOHLER	D	06.10.65	Bayern (Ger)
Giancarlo MAROCCHI	D	04.07.65	Bologna
Luigi SARTORI	D	30.01.75	—
Moreno TORRICELLI	D	23.01.70	Caratese
Roberto BAGGIO	M	18.02.67	Fiorentina
Antonio CONTE	M	31.07.69	Lecce
Massimiliano GIACOBBO	M	15.07.74	—
Andreas MOLLER	M	02.09.67	Eintracht F. (Ger)
David PLATT	M	10.06.66	Bari
Nicola PAGAGNIN	M	18.05.72	—
Pieriuigi CASIRAGHI	A	04.03.69	Monza
Paolo DI CANIO	A	09.07.68	Lazio
Roberto GALIA	A	16.03.63	Verona
Fabrizio RAVANELLI	A	11/12.68	Reggiana
Bruno TROCINI	A	17.05.74	—
Gianluca VIALLI	A	09.07.64	Sampdoria

$50 MILLION DOLLARS SPENT TO BUY SUCH AS ENGLISHMAN DAVID PLATT, GERMAN ANDREAS MOLLER AND, ABOVE ALL, GIANLUCA VIALLI, HAVE SO FAR YIELDED ONLY DISAPPOINTMENT.
Little wonder that on a recent Monday morning, the telephone at coach Giovanni Trapattoni's house rang at half past seven in the morning — on the line was an angry club patron, FIAT president Gianni Agnelli, wanting to know what the problem was after yet another defeat. A good question.

GUIDE TO SERIE A

LAZIO

Corso d'Italia, 19
00187 Roma.
Tel: 06-6781843
The Coach: Dino ZOFF

THE SQUAD

Player	P	Birth	Previous Club
Paolo DI SARNO	G	01.06.68	Ternana
Valerio FIORI	G	27.04.69	Lodigiani
Fernando ORSI	G	12.09.59	Arezzo
Cristiano BERGODI	D	04.10.64	Pescara
Mauro BONOMI	D	23.08.72	Cremonese
Luigi CORINO	D	24.04.66	Triestina
Roberto CRAVERO	D	13.01.64	Torino
Giuseppe FAVALLI	D	08.01.72	Cremonese
Angelo GREGUCCI	D	10.06.64	Alessandria
Luca LUZARDI	D	18.02.70	Brescia
Roberto SOLDA	D	28.01.59	—
Roberto BACCI	M	15.06.67	Mantova
Brito DJAIR	M	21.09.71	St. Gallen (Swi)
Thomas DOLL	M	09.04.66	Hamburg (Ger)
Diego FUSER	M	11.11.68	Milan
Paul GASCOIGNE	M	27.05.67	Tottenham (Eng)
Armando MADONNA	M	05.07.63	Piacenza
Dario MARCOLIN	M	28.10.71	Cremonese
Claudio SCLOSA	M	28.02.61	Pisa
Giovanni STROPPA	M	24.01.68	Milan
Aron WINTER	M	01.03.67	Ajax (Hol)
Karlheinz RIEDLE	A	16.09.65	Werder Bremen (Ger)
Giuseppe SIGNORI	A	17.02.68	Foggia

● ***DESPITE THE INEVITABLE PROBLEMS OF HANDLING FOREIGN PLAYER RIVALRY BETWEEN DUTCHMAN ARON WINTER, ENGLISHMAN PAUL GASCOIGNE AND GERMANS KARLHEINZ RIEDLE AND THOMAS DOLL, LAZIO ARE HAVING THEIR BEST SEASON FOR NEARLY 20 YEARS.***

Winter, in particular, has proved a remarkable success and Lazio, ably guided by wily Dino Zoff, look set to win a UEFA Cup place for next season.

MILAN

A.C. Milan
Via Turati 3
1-20121 Milano
Tel: 2-62281
Fax: 2-6598876
The Coach: Fabio CAPELLO

THE SQUAD

Player	P	Birth	Previous Club
Francesco ANTONIOLI	G	14.09.69	Modena
Carlo CUDICINI	G	06.09.73	—
Sebastiano ROSSI	G	20.07.64	Cesena
Franco BARESI	D	08.05.60	—
Alessandro COSTACURTA	D	24.04.66	Monza
Filippo GALLI	D	19.05.63	Pescara
Enzo GAMBARO	D	23.02.66	Parma
Paolo MALDINI	D	26.06.68	—
Stefano NAVA	D	19.02.69	Parma
Mauro TASSOTTI	D	19.01.60	Lazio
Martino TRAVERSA	D	06.02.74	Bologna
Demetrio ALBERTINI	M	23.08.71	Padova
Zvonimir BOBAN	M	08.10.68	Bari
Fernado DE NAPOLI	M	15.03.64	Napoli
Roberto DONADONI	M	09.09.63	Atalanta
Stefano ERANIO	M	29.12.66	Genoa
Alberigo EVANI	M	01.01.63	—
Ruud GULLIT	M	01.09.62	PSV (Hol)
Gianliugi LENTINI	M	27.03.69	Torino
Franklin RIJKAARD	M	30.09.62	Zaragoza (Spa)
Dejan SAVICEVIC	M	15.09.66	Red Star (Yug)
Davide DIONIGI	A	10.01.74	Modena
Daniele MASSARO	A	23.05.61	Roma
Jean Pierre PAPIN	A	05.11.63	Marseille (Fra)
Marco SIMONE	A	07.01.69	Como
Marco VAN BASTEN	A	31.10.64	Ajax (Hol)

● ***WHAT IS LEFT TO SAY ABOUT THE "MOSTEST" SIDE IN WORLD SOCCER ? WHEN A REPORTER FROM US CURRENT AFFAIRS MAGAZINE TIME RECENTLY WENT TO MILANELLO TO DISCOVER THE SECRET OF MILAN'S SUCCESS, HE WAS GREETED BY AN OLD HAND WHO TOLD HIM TO JUST LOOK AT THE NAMES OF THE PLAYERS ON THE MILAN BOOKS — THEN HE WOULD UNDERSTAND. INDEED.***

President Silvio Berlusconi and coach Fabio Capello have proved us all wrong.

Star players can live with "turnover" and sit in the grandstand every second Sunday. Remember the new Milan motto — always change a winning team.

Lazio's German International striker Karlheinz Riedle (above).

Napoli's Italian International midfielder Gianfranco Zola (right).

Lazio's Dutch midfielder Aron Winter in an aerial battle with Milan's Roberto Donadoni (below).

Alberto Di Chiara (above) is the first Parma player to be capped by Italy.

World Footballer of the Year . . . Marco Van Basten of Milan and Holland (left).

NAPOLI

S.S. Napoli
Via Vicinale Paradiso 70
1-80126 Napoli
Tel: 81-7643030/7661701
Fax: 81-7662763
The Coach: Ottavio BIANCHI

THE SQUAD

Player	P	Birth	Previous Club
Giovanni GALLI	G	29.04.58	Milan
Gianni SANSONETTI	G	28.01.65	Giarre
Fabio CANNAVARO	D	13.09.73	—
Carlo CORNACCCHIA	D	04.0565	Atalanta
Giancarlo CORRADINI	D	24.02.61	Torino
Gaetano DE ROSA	D	10.05.73	—
Ciro FERRARA	D	11.02.67	—
Giovanni FRANCINI	D	03.08.63	Torino
Roberto POLICANO	D	19.02.64	Torino
Massimo TARANTINO	D	20.05.71	Barletta
Luca ALTOMARE	M	14.01.72	Reggiana
Angelo CARBONE	M	23.03.68	Bari
Massimo CRIPPA	M	15.05.65	Torino
Massimo MAURO	M	24.05.62	Juventus
Fausto PARI	M	15.09.62	Sampdoria
Jonas THERN	M	20.03.67	Benfica (Por)
Gianfranco ZOLA	M	05.07.66	Torres
Cristian BAGLIERI	A	23.03.74	—
Antonio CARECA	A	05.10.60	Sao Paulo (Bra)
Marco FERRANTE	A	04.02.71	Pisa
Daniel FONSECA	A	13.09.69	Cagliari

● ***THE RETURN OF THE SELF-BILLED "SHORT, UGLY AND NASTY" OTTAVIO BIANCHI, IN PLACE OF CLAUDIO RANIERI AS NAPOLI COACH, HAS TAKEN THE CLUB OUT OF THE RELEGATION ZONE.***

The switch also has allowed such as Swedish midfielder Jonas Thern, Brazilian striker Careca and Italian midfielder Gianfranco Zola to play well again.

Emerging Italian international Zola, in particular, has done much to fill Diego Maradona's boots and in Argentine Daniel Fonseca and Brazilian Careca, Napoli have an extremely dangerous pair of strikers.

PARMA

A.C. Parma
Via Furlotti 8
1-43100 Parma
Tel:521-240007/240019
Fax: 521-240674
The Coach: Nevio SCALA

THE SQUAD

Player	P	Birth	Previous Club
Marco BALLOTTA	G	03.04.64	Cesena
Marco FERRARI	G	21.08.66	Avellino
Claudio TAFFAREL	G	08.05.66	Inter PA (Bra)
Luigi APOLLONI	D	02.05.67	Reggiana
Antonio BENARRIVO	D	21.08.68	Brindisi
Alberto DI CHIARA	D	29.03.64	Fiorentina
Cornelio DONATI	D	18.01.58	Padova
Gianluca FRANCHINI	D	11.09.72	Avellino
Georges GRUN	D	25.01.62	Anderlecht (Bel)
Salvatore MATRECANO	D	05.10.70	Foggia
Lorenzo MINOTTI	D	08.02.67	Cesena
Sergio BERTI	M	17.02.69	River Plate (Arg)
Stefano CUOGHI	M	08.08.59	Pisa
Aldo MONZA	M	20.08.69	Modena
Marco OSIO	M	13.01.66	Empoli
Gabriele PIN	M	21.01.62	Lazio
Fausto PIZZI	M	21.07.67	Inter
Ivo PULGA	M	20.06.64	Cagliari
Daniele ZORATTO	M	15.11.61	Brescia
Faustino ASPRILLA	A	10.11.69	Nacional (Col)
Tomas BROLIN	A	29.11.69	Norrkoping (Swe)
Gianluca HERVATIN	A	01.01.74	Tempio
Alessandro MELLI	A	11.12.69	Modena

● ***NOW ESTABLISHED AS A SERIOUS REALITY IN ITALY'S COMPETITIVE FIRST DIVISION, PARMA ARE ALSO A MODEL OF GOOD MANAGEMENT.***

Coach Nevio Scala has alternated his foreigners — Swede Tomas Brolin, Belgian George Grun, Argentine Sergio Berti, Colombian Faustino Asprilla — cleverly.

Should qualify for a UEFA Cup place next season and are still involved in this season's Cup-winners' Cup, where they have reached the quarter-finals.

Only Brazilian international goalkeeper Claudio Taffarel, now permanently dropped because of the three foreigner ruling, can complain about the season.

PESCARA

Pescara Calcio
Via Vespucci 108
1-65100 Pescara
Tel: 85-4510662
Fax: 85-4510607
The Coach: Giovanni GALEONE

THE SQUAD

Player	P	Birth	Previous Club
Fabio MARCHIORO	G	01.04.68	Juventus
Marco SAVORANI	G	31.03.65	Como
Salvatore ALFIERI	D	26.10.69	Chieti
Emiliano DE JULIIS	D	08.02.71	Celano
Giacomo DICARA	D	27.04.70	Bari
Massimo EPIFANI	D	25.10.74	—
Roger MENDY	D	08.02.60	Monaco (Fra)
Antonio NOBILE	D	12.01.64	Cesena
Ubaldo RIGHETTI	D	01.03.63	Lecce
John SIVEBAEK	D	25.10.61	Monaco (Fra)
Massimiliano ALLEGRI	M	02.08.67	Pavia
Giacomo CEREDI	M	21.10.66	Barletta
DUNGA	M	31.10.63	Fiorentina
Stefano FERRETTI	M	21.03.60	Ancona
Ottavio PALLADINI	M	29.11.71	Sambenedettese
Vittorio PINCIARELLI	M	02.03.72	Giulianova
Blaz SLISKOVIC	M	30.05.59	Rennes (Fra)
Edy BIVI	A	11.01.60	Monza
Stefano BORGONOVO	A	18.03.64	Fiorentina
Giuseppe COMPAGNO	A	25.08.67	Cosenza
Antonio MARTORELLA	A	19.02.70	—
Fredic MASSARA	A	11.11.68	Pavia

● ***ONE OF THOSE "PROVINCIALE" SIDES THAT YO-YO BETWEEN THE FIRST AND SECOND DIVISIONS.***

Despite a late injection of backbone via the purchase of Brazilian Dunga from Fiorentina (who probably now need him badly), they will be yo-yoing back down again.

Signed two players from Monaco — Senegal's Roger Mendy and Denmark's John Sivebaek — to bolster the defence, and Yugoslav midfielder Blaz Sliskovic from Rennes. Sivebaek's purchase has not been a success for club or player.

ROMA

A.S. Roma
Via di Trigoria Km 3,600
1-00128 Roma
Tel: 6-5060200
Fax: 6-5061736
The Coach: Vujadin BOSKOV

THE SQUAD

Player	P	Birth	Previous Club
Giovanni CERVONE	G	16.11.62	Verona
Giuseppe ZINETTI	G	22.06.58	Pescara
ALDAIR	D	30.11.65	Benfica (Por)
Silvano BENEDETTI	D	05.10.65	Torino
Amedeo CARBONI	D	06.04.65	Sampdoria
Antonio COMI	D	26.07.64	Torino
Luigi GARZYA	D	07.07.69	Lecce
Sebino NELA	D	13.03.61	Genoa
Fabio PETRUZZI	D	24.01.70	Casertana
Antonio TEMPESTILLI	D	08.10.59	Como
Walter BONACINA	M	30.07.64	Atalanta
Marco CAPUTI	M	14.11.74	—
Giuseppe GIANNINI	M	20.08.64	—
Thomas HASSLER	M	30.05.66	Juventus
Sinisa MIHAJLOVIC	M	20.02.69	Red Star (Yug)
Giovanni PIACENTINI	M	09.05.68	Padova
Fausto SALSANO	M	18.02.62	Sampdoria
Claudio CANIGGIA	A	09.01.67	Atalanta
Andrea CARNEVALE	A	12.01.61	Napoli
Roberto MUZZI	A	29.01.71	—
Ruggiero RIZZITELLI	A	02.04.67	Cesena

● ***RECENT IMPROVEMENT, AND ESPECIALLY A 2-1 HOME WIN AGAINST JUVENTUS, HAVE NOT ONLY DRAGGED ROMA OUT OF THE RELEGATION ZONE BUT SET THEM UP FOR A GOOD FINISH TO THE SEASON.***

Once again German Thomas Hassler remains a key figure, while captain Giuseppe Giannini remains enigmatic.

Serb coach Vujadin Boskov looks, however, as if he will be on his way come the end of the season.

The loss of Rudi Voller to Marseille last summer has proved a problem. Argentine forward Claudio Caniggia was expensively signed from Atalanta as a replacement for the German international, but has failed to live up to expectations. The same could be said of Sinisa Mihajlovic from Red Star.

Pescara coach Giovanni Galeone.

SAMPDORIA

U.C. Sampdoria
Via XX Settembre 33
1-16121 Genova
Tel: 10-585343
Fax:10-591712
The Coach: Sven Goran ERIKSSON

THE SQUAD

Player	P	Birth	Previous Club
Giulio NUCIARI	G	26.06.60	Monza
Gianluca PAGLIUCA	G	18.12.66	—
Roberto BUCCHIONI	D	01.02.73	—
Marco LANNA	D	13.07.68	—
Moreno MANNINI	D	15.08.62	Como
Stefano SACCHETTI	D	10.08.72	Modena
Pietro VIERCHOWOD	D	06.04.59	—
Desmond WALKER	D	26.11.65	Nottm. Forest (Eng)
Ivano BONETTI	M	01.08.64	Bologna
Enrico CHIESA	M	29.12.70	Chiete
Eugenio CORINI	M	30.07.70	Juventus
Vladimir JUGOVIC	M	30.08.69	Red Star (Yug)
Srecko KATANEC	M	16.07.63	VfB Stuttgart (Ger)
Giovanni INVERNIZZI	M	22.08.63	Como
Nicola ZANINI	M	26.03.74	Juventus
Mauro BERTARELLI	A	15.09.70	Ancona
Renato BUSO	A	19.12.69	Fiorentina
Attilio LOMBARDO	A	06.01.66	Cremonese
Roberto MANCINI	A	27.11.64	Bologna
Michele SERENA	A	10.03.70	Verona

Udinese goalkeeper Nicola Di Leo and defender Stefano Pellegrini put pressure on Sampdoria forward Roberto Mancini (above).

Torino defender Andrea Sottil fails to stop Roma forward Ruggiero Rizzitelli from getting his shot in (left).

● ***IT HAS BEEN A YEAR OF TRANSITION — FROM THE SAMPDORIA OF BOSKOV, VIALLI, CEREZO ETC TO ONE COACHED BY SWEDE SVEN ERIKSSON AND FEATURING SUCH AS ENGLISHMAN DES WALKER AND SERB VLADIMIR JUGOVIC.***

The Genoa side has done reasonably well to remain in the top third of the table and on target for a UEFA Cup place.

TORINO

Torino Calcio SpA
Corso Vittorio Emmanuele II 77
1-10128 Torino
Tel: 11-5623941
Fax: 11-5622018
The Coach: Emiliano MONDONICO

THE SQUAD

Player	P	Birth	Previous Club
Raffaele DI FUSCO	G	06.10.61	Napoli
Luca MARCHEGIANI	G	22.02.66	Brescia
Antonio ALOISIS	D	28.08.68	Ascoli
Enrico ANNONI	D	01.07.66	Como
Pasquale BRUNO	D	19.06.62	Juventus
Sandro COIS	D	09.06.72	—
Daniele DELLI CARRI	D	18.09.71	Lucchese
Roberto MUSSI	D	25.08.63	Milan
Raffaele SERGIO	D	29.08.66	Lazio
Andrea SOTTIL	D	04.01.74	—
Daniele FORTUNATO	M	08.01.63	Bari
Luca FUSI	M	07.06.63	Napoli
Marcelo SARALEGUI	M	18.05.71	Nacional (Urg)
Vincenzo SCIFO	M	19.02.66	Auxerre (Fra)
Marco SINIGAGLIA	M	29.02.68	Como
Gianluca SORDO	M	02.12.69	Trento
Giogio VENTURIN	M	09.07.68	Napoli
Alvise ZAGO	M	20.08.69	Pisa
Carlos AGUILERA	A	21.09.64	Genoa
Walter CASAGRANDE	A	15.04.63	Ascoli
Antonio DI MAGGIO	A	24.02.74	—
Paolo POGGI	A	16.02.71	Venezia
Andrea SILENZI	A	10.02.66	Napoli
Christian VIERI	A	12.07.73	—

● ***FLATTERED BY A BRIGHT START TO THE SEASON WHEN, FOR WEEKS, THEY WERE SECOND TO MILAN, TORINO HAVE NONETHELESS CONFIRMED THEMSELVES AS A TOP THIRD OF TABLE SIDE, WELL COACHED BY EMILIO MONDONICO.***

Belgian midfielder Enzo Scifo remains one of the best playmaking midfielders in Italian soccer.

UDINESE

Udinese Calcio
Via Cotonificio 94
1-33100 Udine
Tel: 432-477141-2-3
Fax:432-482193
The Coach: Albertino BIGON

THE SQUAD

Player	P	Birth	Previous Club
Nicola DI LEO	G	07.01.60	Perugia
Giuliano GIULIANI	G	29.09.58	Napoli
Michele MICHELUTTI	G	24.06.73	—
Alessandro CALORI	D	28.08.66	Pisa
Renzo CONTRATTO	D	05.12.59	Atalanta
Marek KOZMINSKI	D	07.02.71	Hutnik Cracow (Pol)
Andrea MANDORLINI	D	17.07.60	Inter
Alessandro ORLANDO	D	01.06.70	Sampdoria
Stefano PELLEGRINI	D	06.07.67	Roma
Alessandro PIERINI	D	22.03.73	—
Andrea TRICCA	D	10.08.72	—
Rodolfo VANOLI	D	11.01.63	Lecce
Piotr CZACHOWSKI	M	07.11.66	Zaglebie Lubin (Pol)
Francesco DELL'ANNO	M	04.06.67	Arezzo
Manuel MARCUZ	M	06.05.72	—
Luca MATTEI	M	10.11.64	Fiorentina
Crisian MAURO	M	29.11.74	—
Fabio ROSSITTO	M	21.09.71	—
Roberto SENSINI	M	12.10.66	Newell's OB (Arg)
Abel BALBO	A	01.06.66	River Plate (Arg)
Marco BRANCA	A	06.01.65	Fiorentina
Lorenzo MARRONARO	A	16.01.61	Bologna
Marco NAPPI	A	13.05.66	Fiorentina

● ***ANOTHER OF THE ALLEGEDLY UNAMBITIOUS TO HAVE DONE WELL.***

Udinese are no pushover as such as Inter, Milan and Napoli have discovered. Prolific goal scoring from Argentine Balbo and fine midfield graft from Dell'Anno are at the heart of their success.

The Italian dream

SERIE AAA

A	Ancona
B	Atalanta
C	Brescia
D	Cagliari
E	Fiorentina
F	Foggia
G	Genoa
H	Juventus
I	Inter
J	Lazio
K	Milan
L	Napoli
M	Parma
N	Pescara
O	Roma
P	Sampdoria
Q	Torino
R	Udinese

SERIE BBB

a	Ascoli
b	Bari
c	Bologna
d	Cesena
e	Cosenza
f	Cremonese
g	F. Andria
h	Lecce
i	Lucchese
j	Modena
k	Monza
l	Padova
m	Piacenza
n	Pisa
o	Reggiana
p	Spal
q	Taranto
r	Ternana

PREVIOUS ITALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS AND CUPS

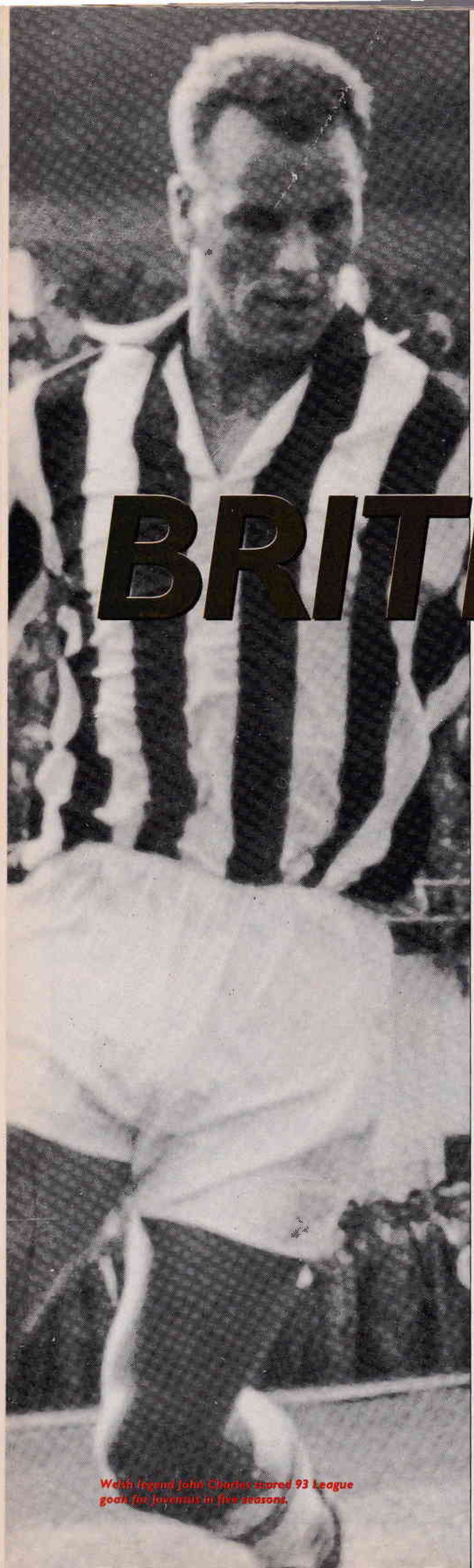
CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY-OFF

Year	Champions	Cup-winners
1898	Genoa	—
1899	Genoa	—
1900	Genoa	—
1901	Milan C&FC	—
1902	Genoa	—
1903	Genoa	—
1904	Genoa	—
1905	Juventus*	—
1906	AC Milan*	—
1907	AC Milan*	—
1908	Pro Vercelli*	—
1909	Pro Vercelli	—
1910	Ambrosiana	—
1911	Pro Vercelli	—
1912	Pro Vercelli	—
1913	Pro Vercelli	—
1914	Casele	—
1915	Genoa**	—
1920	Ambrosiana	—
1921	Pro Vercelli	—
1922	US Novese & Pro Vercelli***	Vado
1923	Genoa	—
1924	Genoa	—
1925	Bologna	—
1926	Juventus	—
1927	Torino*	—
1928	Torino*	—
1929	Bologna	—

* = mini-league
** = finals not played, Genoa awarded title
*** = US Novese won the FIGC League
Pro Vercelli won the CCI League

NATIONAL LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

Year	Champions	Cup-winners
1930	Ambrosiana	—
1931	Juventus	—
1932	Juventus	—
1933	Juventus	—
1934	Juventus	—
1935	Juventus	—
1936	Bologna	Torino
1937	Bologna	Genoa
1938	Ambrosiana	Juventus
1939	Bologna	Ambrosiana
1940	Amrbosiana	Fiorentina
1941	Bologna	Venezia
1942	AS Roma	Juventus
1943	Torino	Torino
1946	Torino	—
1947	Torino	—
1948	Torino	—
1949	Torino	—
1950	Juventus	—
1951	AC Milan	—
1952	Juventus	—
1953	Internazionale	—
1954	Internazionale	—
1955	AC Milan	—
1956	Fiorentina	—
1957	AC Milan	—
1958	Juventus	Lazio
1959	AC Milan	Juventus
1960	Juventus	Juventus
1961	Juventus	Fiorentina
1962	AC Milan	Napoli
1963	Internazionale	Atalanta
1964	Bologna	AS Roma
1965	Internazionale	Juventus
1966	Internazionale	Fiorentina
1967	Juventus	AC Milan
1968	AC Milan	Torino*
1969	Fiorentina	AS Roma*
1970	Cagliari	Bologna*
1971	Internazionale	Torino
1972	Juventus	AC Milan
1973	Juventus	AC Milan
1974	Lazio	Bologna
1975	Juventus	Fiorentina
1976	Torino	Napoli
1977	Juventus	AC Milan
1978	Juventus	Internazionale
1979	AC Milan	Juventus
1980	Internazionale	AS Roma
1981	Juventus	AS Roma
1982	Juventus	Internazionale
1983	AS Roma	Juventus
1984	Juventus	AS Roma
1985	Verona	Sampdoria
1986	Juventus	AS Roma
1987	Napoli	Napoli
1988	AC Milan	Sampdoria
1989	Internazionale	Sampdoria
1990	Napoli	Juventus
1991	Sampdoria	AS Roma
1992	AC Milan	Parma



Welsh legend John Charles scored 93 League goals for Juventus in five seasons.

BRITISH soccer

WELSHMAN John Charles at Juventus, Irishman Liam Brady at Juventus, Sampdoria and Internazionale and Englishman Gerry Hitchens at Internazionale are probably the outstanding "British" soccer success stories in post-war Italian soccer. Not only were all three remarkable talents, but all conformed to the unwritten rule relative to success in Italy — namely, to survive and prosper, you have to adapt, learn the language and settle quickly.

In the past, that proved a problem for Englishman Jimmy Greaves at Milan, Welshman Ian Rush at Juventus and, right now, it may be proving a problem for Paul Gascoigne at Lazio.

Other British exports worthy of honourable mention are Graeme Souness (Sampdoria), Mark Hateley and Ray Wilkins (Milan), Gordon Cowans (Bari) and Trevor Francis (Sampdoria and Atalanta).

These days, British imports cost too much to be much sought after by clubs who prefer to look to Latin America for bargain buys.

Paul Gascoigne at Lazio, David Platt at Juventus and Des Walker at Sampdoria are the only current British residents in Serie A.

ENGLAND

Charles Norman ADCOCK
Born: 21st February 1923 (Boston, Lincs)
Forward

		Serie	Games	Goals
46-47	Padova	B	27	10
47-48	Padova	B	33	17
49-59	Padova	A	23	7
49-50	Triestina	A	17	4
50-51	Treviso	B	9	1

Joseph BAKER
Born: 17th January 1940 (Liverpool)
Forward
Hibernian

		Serie	Games	Goals
61-62	Torino	A	19	7

Luther BLISSETT
Born: 1st February 1958 (Falmouth Jamaica)
Forward
Watford

		Serie	Games	Goals
83-84	Milan	A	30	5

Gordon COWANS
Born: 27th October 1958 (Durham)
Midfield
Aston Villa

		Serie	Games	Goals
85-86	Bari	A	20	0
86-87	Bari	B	38	3
87-88	Bari	B	37	0

Paul ELLIOTT
Born: 18 March 1964 (London)
Defender
Aston Villa

		Serie	Games	Goals
87-88	Pisa	A	11	1
88-89	Pisa	A	14	0

Trevor FRANCIS
Born: 19th April 1954 (Plymouth)
Forward
Manchester City

		Serie	Games	Goals
82-83	Sampdoria	A	14	7
83-84	Sampdoria	A	15	3
84-85	Sampdoria	A	24	6
85-86	Sampdoria	A	14	1
86-87	Atalanta	A	21	1

Paul GASCOIGNE
Born: 27 May 1967 (Gateshead)
Midfield
Tottenham Hotspur

		Serie	Games	Goals
92-93	Lazio	A		

James GREAVES
Born: 20th February 1940 (London)
Forward
Chelsea

		Serie	Games	Goals
61-62	Milan	A	10	9

Mark HATELEY
Born: 7th November 1961 (Derby)
Forward
Portsmouth

		Serie	Games	Goals
84-85	Milan	A	21	7
85-86	Milan	A	22	6
86-87	Milan	A	23	2

Reginald HITCHENS
Born: 8th October 1934 (Rawnsley)
Forward
Aston Villa

		Serie	Games	Goals
61-62	Inter	A	34	16
62-63	Inter	A	5	1
Nov.62	Torino	A	24	11
63-64	Torino	A	33	9
64-65	Torino	A	32	8
65-66	Atalanta	A	33	6
66-67	Atalanta	A	25	4
67-68	Cagliari	A	17	4
68-69	Cagliari	A	2	0

William John JORDAN
Born: 8th November 1921 (Bromley)
Forward
Tottenham Hotspur

		Serie	Games	Goals
48-49	Juventus	A	20	5

Anthony MARCHI
Born: 21st January 1933 (London)
Half-back
Tottenham Hotspur

		Serie	Games	Goals
57-58	Vicenza	A	30	7
58-59	Torino	A	29	4

imports

David PLATT
Born: 10 June 1966 (Oldham)
Midfield
Aston Villa

		Serie	Games	Goals
91-92	Bari	A	29	11
92-93	Juventus	A		

Frank RATCLIFFE
Born: 10th December 1921 (Blackburn)
Forward
Aldershot FC

		Serie	Games	Goals
49-50	Alessandria	B	27	18

Paul David RIDEOUT
Born: 14th August 1964 (Bournemouth)
Forward
Aston Villa

		Serie	Games	Goals
85-86	Bari	A	28	6
86-87	Bari	B	34	10
87-88	Bari	B	38	7

Des WALKER
Born: 26 November 1965 (London)
Defender
Nottingham Forest

		Serie	Games	Goals
92-93	Sampdoria	A		

Raymond Colin WILKINS
Born: 14th September 1956 (Hillingdon)
Midfielder
Manchester United

		Serie	Games	Goals
84-85	Milan	A	28	0
85-86	Milan	A	29	2
86-87	Milan	A	16	0
84-85	Inter	A	29	2
85-86	Inter	A	29	3
86-87	Ascoli	A	17	0

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

Liam BRADY
Born: 13th February 1956 (Dublin)
Midfielder
Arsenal

		Serie	Games	Goals
80-81	Juventus	A	28	8
81-82	Juventus	A	29	5
82-83	Sampdoria	A	29	2
83-84	Sampdoria	A	29	4

Josiah W. (Paddy) SLOAN
Born: 30th April 1921 (Lurgan)
Forward
Sheffield United

		Serie	Games	Goals
48-49	Milan	A	30	9
49-50	Udinese	B	23	6
50-51	Brescia	B	19	8

Paul Rideout and Gordon Cowans (left) spent three seasons at Bari.

Graeme Souness and Trevor Francis (top) enjoyed great success together at Sampdoria.

Ian Rush (above, right) had an unhappy 1987-88 season at Juventus before returning to his former club Liverpool.

Former England midfielder Ray Wilkins (above) spent three seasons at Milan before moving on to Paris Saint-Germain, Rangers and most recently QPR.

SCOTLAND

Joe JORDAN
Born: 15th December 1951 (Carluke)
Forward
Manchester United

		Serie	Games	Goals
81-82	Milan	A	22	2
82-83	Milan	B	30	10
83-84	Verona	A	12	1

Denis LAW
Born: 24th February 1940 (Aberdeen)
Forward
Manchester City

		Serie	Games	Goals
61-62	Torino	A	27	10

Graeme SOUNESS
Born: 6th May 1953 (Edinburgh)
Midfielder
Liverpool

		Serie	Games	Goals
84-85	Sampdoria	A	28	5
85-86	Sampdoria	A	28	3

WALES

William John CHARLES
Born: 24th December 1931
Forward & Half-back
Leeds United

		Serie	Games	Goals
57-58	Juventus	A	34	28
58-59	Juventus	A	29	19
59-60	Juventus	A	34	23
60-61	Juventus	A	32	15
61-62	Juventus	A	21	8
62-63	Roma	A	10	4

Ian RUSH
Born: 20 October 1961 (Flint)
Forward
Liverpool

		Serie	Games	Goals
87-88	Juventus	A	29	7

POST-WAR ITALIAN CH

1945-60

1945-46 — TORINO

Team: Bacigalupo (40); Ballarini (39-2), Maroso (35); Grezar (35-4), Rigamonti (36), Castigliano (39-19); Ossola (30-11), Loik (39-16), Gabetto (35-22), Mazzola V. (35-16), Ferraris II (36-12). Piacentini (10); Santagiuliana (16-1); Guaraldo (11-2), Zecca (2).

Top Scorers: (Girone Final): 13 Castigliano (Torino); 8 Barbieri (Napoli); 7 Amadei (Roma) and Gabetto (Torino).

Milan's Uruguayan striker Juan Schiaffino.

1946-47 — TORINO

Team: Bacigalupo (25); Ballarin (38), Maroso (33); Grezar (35-4), Rigamonti (34), Castigliano (27-8); Ossola (29-13), Loil (30-12), Gabetto (35-19, Mazzola V. (38-29), Ferraris II (34-8). Piani (13); Rosetta (13); Martelli (17-1); Menti II (14-6), Tieghi (3-2).

Top Scorers: 29 Mazzola V. (Torino); 21 Puricelli (Milan); 20 Carapellese (Milan.

1947-48 — TORINO

Team: Bacigalupo (40); Ballarin (39-1), Maroso (17-1), Grezar (33-5), Rigamonti (39), Castigliano (29-7), Menti II (38-16), Loik (33-16), Gabetto (36-23), Mazzola V. (37-25), Ossola (17-9), Toma (24); Martelli (27-9); Ferraris II (16-3), Fabian (15-9).

Top Scorers: 27 Boniperti (Juventus); 25 Mazzola V (Torino); 23 Gabetto (Torino).

1948-49 — TORINO

Team: Bacigalupo (32); Ballarin (32-1), Maroso (18), Grezar (21-3), Rigamonti (31-1), Castigliano (21-1), Menti II (29-9), Loik(28-9), Gabetto (34-8), Mazzola V. (30-16), Ossola (25-11). Vandone (4), Gandolfi (2);Operto (11), Mari (4), Motto (4), Toma(2); Martelli (28), Fadini (10-1), Lussu (4-2), Ferrari (3), Macchi (3), Biglino (2), Bersia (1); Bongioni (8-2), Giuliano (8-4), Schubert (5-1), Francone (4-1), Giammarinaro (4-2), Marchetto (4), Audisio (3-1), Balbiano (2), Grava (1).

Top Scorers: 26 Nyers I (Inter); 22 Madei (Inter); 21 Mike (Bologna).

1949-50 — JUVENTUS

Team: Viola (37); Bertuccelli (36), Manente (35); Mari (38-4), Parola (35-2), Piccinini (32-2); Muccinelli (34-13), Martino (33-18), Boniperti (35-21), J. Hansen (37-28), Praest (37-11), Cavalli (1); Rava (6); Bizzotto (8); Vivolo (10-1), Scaramuzzi (3), Mariani (1).

Top Scorers: 35 Nordahl (Milan); 30 Nyers I (inter); 28 J. Hansen (Juventus).

1950-51 — MILAN

Team: Buffon (37); Silvestri (38-2), Bonomi (38); Annovazzi (37-16); Tognon (38), De Grandi (30-3); Burini (35-12), Gren (36-9), Nordahl (37-34), Liedholm (31-13), Renosto (28-5). Rossetti (1); Foglia (14), Belloni (1); Sanagostino (14-9), Vicariotto (2), Carnier (1).

Top Scorers: 34 Nordahl (Milan); 31 Nyers I (Inter); 24 K. Hansen (Juventus).

1951-52 — JUVENTUS

Team: Viola (34); Bertuccelli (24), Manente (33); Mari (31-32), Ferrario (24), Piccinini (34); Muccinelli (30-17), K. Hansen (36-12), Boniperti (33-19), J. Hansen (36-30), Praest (35-3). Cavalli (4); Corradi (17), Boniforti (2); Parola (15-1), Bizzotto (10); Vivolo (19-12), Caprile (5-2), Scaramuzzi (1).

Top Scorers: 30 J. Hansen (Juventus); 26 Nordahl (Milan); 23 Nyers I (Inter).

1952-53 — INTER

Team:Ghezzi (34); Blason (25), Giacomazzi (33-10); Neri (26), Giovannini (31), Nesti (29-1); Armono(29-4); Mazza (32-4), Lorenzi (30-12), Skoglund (30-6), Nyers (31-15). Padulazzi (11-1), Grava (1); Fattori (13), Morin (1); Buzzin (8), Brighenti II (4), Broccini (4-1), Mazzoni (2).

Top Scorers: 26 Nordahl (Milan); 22 J Hansen (Juventus); 18 Rasmussen (Atalanta).

1953-54 — INTER

Team: Ghezzi (34); Giacomazzi (29), Padulazzi (25); Neri (32), Giovannini (25), Nesti (29-2); Armano (33-13), Mazza (27-3), Lorenzi (28-12), Skoglund (27-10), Nyers (14-8). Vincenzi (18-1), Blason (1); Fattori (20-2); Brighenti II (15-9), Buzzin (12-5), Broccini (4), Zambaiti (1).

Top Scorers: 23 Nordah (Milan); 20 Jeppson (Napoli); 17 Bassetto (Atalanta).

1954-55 — MILAN

Team: Buffon (32); Silvestri (26), Zagatti (24); Liedholm (28-6), Maldini (27-1), Bergamaschi (32-1); L. Soerensen (30-13), Ricagni (26-6), Nordahl (33-27), Schiaffino (27-11), Frignani (277). Toron (2); Beraldo (18); Fontant (13), Pedron (10); Vicariotto (12-3), Valli (6-1), Vitali (1).

Top Scorers: 27 Nordahl (Milan); 20 Bettini (Udinese); 17 Pivatelli (Bologna).

1955-56 — FIORENTINA

Team: Sarti (25); Magnini (32-1), Cervato (33-5), Chiappella (32), Rosetta (230), Segato (34); Julinho (31-6), Gratton (34-3), Virgili (32-21), Montuori (32-13), Prini (26-6). Toros (9); Bartoli (2); Orzan (18), Scaramucci (2); Bizzarri (6-1), Mazza (4), Carpanesi (2-1).

Top Scorers: 29 Pivatelli (Bologna); 23 Nordahl (Milan); 21 Virgili (Fiorentina).

1956-57 — MILAN

Team: Buffon (17); Beraldo (20), Maldini (21-1), Liedholm (26-4), Zannier (34), Fontana (34); Mariani (30-2), Galli (23-14), Bean (25-17), Schiaffino (29-9), Bredesen (27-6). Soldam (17); Zagatti (15); Bergamaschi (22-1), Radice (1); Cucchiaroni (13-3), Bagnoli (10-1), Farina (7-4), Reina (2), Manti (1).

Top Scorers: 22 Da Costa (Roma); 18 Vinicio (Napoli), Secchi (Udinese); 17 Bean (Milan).

1957-58 — JUVENTUS

Team: Mattrel (33); Corradi (34-2); Garzena (34); Emoli (31-1), Ferrario (27-1), Colombo (28-2); Nicole' (21-1), Boniperti (34-8), Charles (34-28), Sivori (32-22), Stacchini (24-6).Viola (1); Montico (14-3), Boldi (4), Turchi (4), Patrucco (2); Stivanello (17-1).

Top Scorers: 28 Charles (juventus); 23 Firmani (Sampdoria); 22 Sivori (Juventus).

1958-59- MILAN

Team: Buffon (25); Fontanta (34-1); Zagatti (33); Liedholm (30-1), Maldini (34), Occhetta (25-2); Galli (30-11), Schiaffino (27-2), Altafini (32-38), Grillo (27-9), Danova (30-16). Soldan (8), Ducati (1); Beraldo (1); Salvadore (3), Badice (2), Migliavacca (2); Bean (19-4), Bacci (11-5).

Top Scorers: 33 Angelillo (Inter); 28 Altafini (Milan); 26 Hamrin (Fiorentina).

1959-60 — JUVENTUS

Team: Mattrel (16); Castano (16), Sarti B (30); Emoli (30), Cervato (34-6), Colombo (31-3); Boniperti (31-7), Nicole (31-11), Charles (34-23), Sivori (31-27), Stacchini (29-8). Vavassori (18); Garzena (20); Leoncini (8-2), Montico (1); Lojodice (8-1), Stivanello (4-2), Rossano (1), Voltolina (1).

Top Scorers: 27 Sivori (Juventus); 26 Hamrin (Fiorentina); 23 Charles (Juventus).

1961-80

1960-61 — JUVENTUS

Team: Vavassori (30); Burgnich (13), Sarti B. (34); Emoli (19-1), Cervato (28-1); Colombia (24-1); Boniperti (28-6), Charles (32-15), Nicole (29-13), Sivori (27-5), Stacchini (28-2), Mattrel (3), Romano (1); Castano (13), Burelli (4); Leoncini (21), Mazzia (4); Mora (28-12), Caroli (3), Lojodice (3), Fascetti (2).

Top Scorers: 27 Brighenti (Sampdoria); 25 Sivori (Juventus); 22 Altafini (Milan).

1961-62 — MILAN

Team: Ghezzi (27); David(30-3), Salvadore (30); Radice (28-1), Maldini C. (34-1), Trapattoni (32); Danova (17-7), Sani (20-5), Altafini (33-22), Rivera (27-10), Barison (22-6). Liberalato (7); Zagatti (8), Trebbi (5); Pelagalli (14-1); Pivatelli (16-8), Greaves (10-9), Contin(9-4), Ghiggia (4), Lodetti (1).

Top Scorers: 22 Milani (Fiorentina), Altafini (Milan); 16 Hitchens (Inter), Sormani (Mantova); 15 Hamrin (Fiorentina).

1962-63 — INTER

Team: Buffon (20); Burgnich (31), Facchetti (31-4); Zaglio (21), Guarnieri (34), Picchi (30); Jair (27-10), Mazzola A. (23-10), Di Giacomo (24), Suarez (29-8), Corso (30-8), Bugatti (10), Ferretti (4); Masiero (9); Bolchi (12), Della-giovanna (1), Tagnin (1); Maschio (15-4), Bicicli (11), Hitchens (5-1), Morbellow (4), Bettini (2).

Top Scorers: 19 Nielsen (Bologna), Manfredini (Roma); 16 Sivori (Juventus).

1963-64 — BOLOGNA

Team: Negri (34); Furlanis (34-1), Pavinato (27); Tumburus (28-2), Janich (34), Fogli (33-1); Perani (28-6), Bulgarelli (32-8), H. Nielsen (31-32), Haller (34-7), Pascutti (25-8). Capra (11), Lorenzini (2); Franzini (3); Renna (14), Demarco (3-1), Corradi (1).

Top Scorers: 21 Nielsen (Bologna); 19 Hamrin (Fiorenina); 17 Vincio (Vicenza).

1964-65 — INTER

Team: Sarti G (25); Burgnich (31l1), Facchetti (32-2); Tagnin (16), Guarnieri (31), Picchi (28); Domenghini (26-9), Mazzola A (33-17), Milani (11), Suarez (29-8), Corso (30-8). Bugatti (6), Di Vincenzo (3); Malatrasi (15); Bedin (14-4), Landini (2), Dellagiovanna (1); Jair (19-10), Peiro (15-4), Gori (4-1), Canella (3).

Top Scorers: 17 Orland (Fiorentina), Mazzola (Inter) 14 Amariido (Miland).

1965-66 — INTER

Team:Sarti F. (32); Burgnich (30), Facchetti (32-10); Bedin (30-5), Guarnieri (31-1), Picchi (29); Domenghini (31-12), Mazzola A. (30-19), Jair (27-4), Suarez (27-5), Corso (30-3). Miniussi (3); Malatrasi (7), Facco (1); Landini (11); Peiro (10-4), Cappellini (6-2), Gori (6-1), Canella (1), Cordova (1).

Top Scorers: 25 Vinicio (Vicenza); 21 Sormani (Milan); 19 Mazzola A. (Inter).

1966-67 — JUVENTUS

Team: Anzolin (34); Gori A. (29-2), Leoncini (31-3); Bercellino J (27-4), Castano (30), Salvadore (32-4); Favalli (15-2), Del Sol (28-1) De Paoli (26-8), Cinesinho (31-1), Menichelli (33-11). Sarti B. (14); Sacco (10), Rinero (5), Coramini (1);Zigoni (23-8), Stacchini (7).

Top Scorers: 18 Riva (Cagliari); 17 Mazzola A. (Inter); 16 Hamrin (Fiorentina), Altafini (Narpoli).

1967-68 — MILAN

Team: Cudicini (18); Anquilletti (30), Schnellinger (27); Trapattoni (24), Rosato (28), Lodetti (29-2); Hamrin (23-8), Angelillo (3-1), Sormani (29-11), Rivera (29-11), Prati (23-15). Belli (12), Becchi (1); Malatrasi (28), Scala (7), Baveni (4); Mora (9-1), Golin (4), Rognoni (2), Giacomini (1).

Top Scorers: 15 Prat (Milan); 13 Riva (Cagliari Altafini (Napoli), Combi (Torinao); 12 Savoldi I (Atalanta).

1968-69 — FIORENTINA

Team: Superchi (30); Rogora (28), Mancin (29 Esposito (21), Ferrante (30-1), Brizi(25);Rizzo (27-6), Merlo (26-1), Maraschi (30-14), De Sisti (30-2), Amarildo (25-6), Bandoni (1); Stanzial (7); Pirovano (5 Cencetti (5); Chiarugi (18-7), Danova (2), Mariani (1).

Top Scorers: 20 Riva (Cagliari); 15 Bui (Vrona 14 Maraschi (Fiorentina

1969-70 — CAGLIARI

Team: Albertosi (3o); Martiradonna (28), Zignoli (25); Cera (27), Niccolai (29), Tomasin (17); Domenghini (30-8 Nene (28-3), Gori S. (30 6), Greatti (27-1), Riva (28-21), Reginato (1); Mancin (8); Poli (11); Brugnera (19-3), Nastasio (2).

Top Scorers: 21 Riva (Cagliari); 17 Vitali (Vicenza); 15 Anastasi (Juventus).

1970-71 — INTER

Team:Vieri (24); Burgnich (29), Fachett (30-5);Bedin (23-1), Giubertoini (27), Bertin (26-1); Jair (23-6), MazzolaA. (29-7), Bonninsegna (28-24), Frustalup (18-1), Corso (29-3). Bordon (9); Bellugi (19), Righetti (1 Fabbian (17), Cella (6 Oriali(2); Pellizzaro (4 Achilli (3-1, Reif (2).

Top Scorers: 24 Boninsegna (Inter); 19 Prati (Milan); 15 Savoldi (Bologna).

Sandro Mazzola Internazionale.

AMPIONSHIP WINNERS

1981-92

1971-72 — JUVENTUS

Team: Carmignani (25); Spinosi (30-1), Marchetti (29-1); Furino (27-2); Morini F (30), Salvadore (30-1); Haller (23-5), Causio (30-6), Anastasi (30-11), Capello(29-9), Bettega (14-10), Pilon (5); Longobucco (2), Cuccureddu (10; Roveta (1); Savoldi II (13), Nevellini (11-1), Viola (4).

Top Scorers: 22 Boninsegna (Inter); 21 Riva (Cagliari); 14 Bigon (Milan).

1972-73 — JUVENTUS

Team: Zoff (30); Spinosi (25), Marchetti (28-3); Furino (27), Morini (24), Salvadore (28-2); Altafini (23-9), Causio (28-8), Anastasi (27-6), Capello (27-3), Bettega (27-8). Longobucco (12), Cuccureddu (22-1); Haller (18-2), Savoldi II (6).

Top Scorers: 17 Savoldi I (Bologna), Rivera (Milan), Pulici (Torino); 12 Riva (Cagliari), Boninsegna(Inter), Chiarugi (Milan); 10 Clerici (Fiorentina), Chinaglia (Lazio), Bigon (Milan).

1973-74 — LAZIO

Team: Pulici F. (30); Martini (28), Petrelli (22-1), Wilson (30-1), Oddi (30), Nanni (30-2); Garaschelli (29-10), Re Cecconi (23-2), Chinaglia (30-24), Frustalupi (30), D'Amico (27-2). Polentes (9), Facco (6); Inselvini (11), Borgo (1), Tripodi (1); Franzoni(10-1), Manservisi (4).

Top Scorers: 24 Chinaglia (Lazio); 23 Boninsegna (Inter); 16 Anastasi (Juventus).

Pietro Anastasi of Juventus and Italy.

1974-75 — JUVENTUS

Team: Zoff (30); Gentile (29), Cuccureddu (27-2); Furino (28), Morini F. (26), Scirea (28); Damiani (27-9), Causio (28-7), Anastasi (25-8), Capello (28-3), Bettega (27-6). Logobucco (9); Spinosi (7); Altafini (20-8), Viola (9-1).

Top Scorers: 18 Pulici (Torino); 15 Savoldi I (Bologna); 14 Chinaglia (Lazio).

1975-76 — TORINO

Team: Castellini (29); Santin (25), Salvador (30); P. Sala (30), Mozzini (29), Caporale (28); C. Sala (29-1), Pecci (29-2), Graziani (29-15), Zaccarelli (28-4), Pulici P. (30-21), Cazzaniga (3); Lombardo (3); Gorin II (12-1), Garritano (5-1), Pallavicini (4), Bacchin (1).

Top Scorers: 21 Pulici (Torino); 15 Bettega (Juventus), Graziani (Torino); 14 Savoldi I (Napoli).

1976-1977 — JUVENTUS

Team: Zoff (30); Cuccureddu (29-1); Gentile (29-1); Furino (26-1), Morini F. (26), Scirea (30-1); Causio (30-5), Tardelli (28-4), Bonninsegna (29-10), Benetti (30-4), Bettega (30-17). Cabrini (7-1), Spinosi (7); Marchetti (6); Gori (7-1).

Top Scorers: 21 Graziani (Torino); 18 Pruzzo (Genoa); 17 Bettega (Juventus).

1977-78 — JUVENTUS

Team: Zoff (30); Cuccureddu (30-2); Gentile (28-3); Furino (26), Morini (26), Scirea (29); Causio (30-4), Tardelli (26-3), Boninsegna (21-10), Benetti (27-5), Bettega (30-11). Cabrini (15), Spinosi (5); Fanna (13-2), Virdis (10-1), Verza (5-1).

Top Scorers: 24 Rossi (Vicenza); 16 Savoldi (Napoli); 12 Giordano (Lazio).

1978-79 — MILAN

Team: Albertosi (30); Collovati (27); Maldera III (30-9); De Vecchi (28-5), Bet (17); F. Baresi (30); Antonelli (21-5); Bigon (26-12), Novellino (30-4), Buriani (29-1), Chiodi (24-7). Boldini (14-1); Morini G (14; Rivera (13-1); Capello (8); Sartori (7), Minoia (2-1), Rigamonti (1).

Top Scorers: 19 Giordano (Lazio); 15 Rossi (Vicenza); 12 Bigon (Milan).

1979-80 — INTER

Team: Bordon (30); G. Baresi (30-1), Oriali (25-6); Pasinato (27-2), Mozzini (22-1), Bini (28-1); Caso (29-1), Marini (29-1), Altobelli (29-15), Beccalossi (27-7); Muraro (24.-5). Cipollini (1); Canuti (26); Pancheri (17); Ambu (13-1); Occhipinti (1).

Top Scorers: 16 Bettega (Juventus); 15 Altobelli (Inter); 13 Rossi (Perugia).

1980-1981 — JUVENTUS

Team: Zoff (30); Cuccureddu (29-1), Cabrini (28-7); Furino (24), Gentile (27), Scirea (29-4); Causio (25-2), Tardelli (28-7), Bettega (25-5), Brady (28-8), Fanna (29-5). Osti (6), Storgato (1); Brio (4); Marocchino (24-5), Pradelli (20), Verza (14), Galderisi (1).

Top Scorers: 18 Pruzzo (Roma); 13 Palanca (Catanzaro); 12 Altobelli (Inter).

1981-82 — JUVENTUS

Team: Zoff (30); Gentile (27-2), Carrini (29-5); Furino (27), Brio (29-1), Scirea (30-5); Marocchino (29-1), Tardelli (22-3), Galderisi (16.-6), Brady (29-5), Virdis (30-9). Osti (6); Bonini (28-1), Tavola (3);Fanna (21-1), Pradelli (8), Bettega (7-5), Rossi (3-1).

Top Scorers: 15 Pruzzo (Roma); 12 Bivi (Catanzaro); 11 Pellegrini III (Napoli).

1982-83 — ROMA

Team: Tancredi (30); Nela (28-2), Vierchowod (30); Ancelotti (23-2); Falcao (27-7), Maldera III (26-1); Conti B. (26-3), Prohaska (26-3), Pruzzo (27-12), Di Bartolomei (28-7), Iorio (25). Superchi (1); Nappi (16-3); Righetti U. (12); Chierico (16-2), Valigi (13), Faccini (3-1), Giovannelli P. (1).

Top Scorers: 16 Platini (Juventus); 15 Altobelli (Inter), Penzo (Verona); 12 Pruzzo (Roma).

1983-84 — JUVENTUS

Team: Tacconi (23); Gentile (24), Cabrini (29-5); Bonini (29-19), Brio (26), Scirea (30-2); Penzo (25-5), Tardelli (28), Rossi (30-13), Platini (28-20), Boniek (27-2), Bodini (7);Caricola II (20), Tavola (2); Furino (1); Vignola (25-5), Pradelli (17), Koetting (1).

Top Scorers: 20 Platini (Juventus); 19 Zico (Udinese); 14 Iorio (Verona); 13 Rossi (Juventus.

1984-85 — VERONA

Team:Garella (30; Volpati (30), L. Marangon (29-2); Briegel (27-9), Fontolan (28-1), Tricella (30); Fanna (29-2), Bruni (27-1), Galderisi (29-11), Di Gennaro (29-4), Elkjaer (23-8), Spuri (1); Ferroni I (20), F. Marangon (3); Sacchetti (15-1), Dona(12); Turchetta (16).

Top Scorers: 18 Platini (Juventus); 17 Altobelli (Inter); 14 Maradona (Napoli).

Verona's Danish striker Preben Elkjaer.

1985-86 — JUVENTUS

Team: Tacconi (30);Favero (30-1), Cabrini (30-2); Bonini (26-1), Brio (29-3), Scirea (25); Mauro II (28-2), Manfredonia (23), Serena (25-11), Platini (30-12), Laudrup(29-7). Caricola II (5), Pioli (14); G. Pin (21-1), I. Bonetti (2); Pacione (12), Briaschi I (10-2).

Top Scorers: 19 Pruzza (Roma); 13 Rummenigge (Inter); 12 Platini (Juventus).

1986-87 — NAPOLI

Team:Garella (29);Bruscolotti (25), Ferrara (28-2); Bagni (28-4), Ferrario (29-1), Renica (29-1);

Claudio Gentile of Juventus and Italy.

Carnevale (27-8), De Napoli (28-2), Giordano (26-5), Maradona (29-10), Romano F. (24-2). Di Fusco (1); Volpecina (25-2), Bigliardi (3); Caffarelli (21-3), Sola (16), Marino (4); Muro (11-1).

Top Scorers: 17 Virdis (Milan); 12 Vialli (Sampdoria); 11 Altobelli (Inter).

1987-88 — MILAN

Team: G. Galli (30); Tassotti (28), Maldini (26-2); Colombo (26-3), F. Galli (30), F. Baresi (27-1); Donadoni (29-4), Ancelotti (27-2), Virdis (25-11), Gullit (29-9), Evani (27-1). Mussi (11), Costacurta (7), Bianchi (3), Verga (3); Bortolazzi (13-1); Massaro (26-5), Van Basten (11-3), Cappellini (2) Mannari (1).

Top Scorers: 15 Maradona (Napoli); 13 Careca (Napoli); 11 Virdis (Milan).

1988-89 — INTER

Team: Zena (33);Bergomei (32-1), Breheme (31-3); Matteoli (32-2), R. Ferri (31-1, Mandolini (26-3); Bianchi (31-2), Berti (32-7), Diaz (33-12), Matthaus (32-9), Serena (32-22), Verdelli (20), Fanna (13), Morello (10), Galvani (3), Malgioglio (1), Rivolta (1), Rocco (1).

Top Scorers: 22 Serena (Inter); 19 Van Basten (Milan), Careca (Napoli); 17 Baggio (Fiorentina).

1989-90 — NAPOLI

Team: Giuliani (32); Ferrara (33), Francini (26-3); Crippa (32-4); Alemao (27-2); Baroni (33-2); Fusi (29-2); De Napoli (32); Careca (22-10); Maradona(28-16); Carnevale (31-8); Mauro (30-1); Corradini (28-2); Zola (18-2); Renica (8-1); Bigliardi (7); Neri (3); Di Fusco (2); Bucciarelli (2), Tarantino (1).

Top Scorers: 19 Van Basten (Milan); 17 Baggio (Fiorentina); 16 Maradonia (Napoli).

1990-91 — SAMPDORIA

Team: Pagliuca (32); M. Mannini (26-2), Katanec (26-2); Pari (33), Vierchowod (30-3), Lanna (26); Mikhalichenko 24-3), A. Lombardo (32-3), Vialli (26-19), R. Mancini (30-12), Dossena (34-1); Invernizzi (31-2), I. Bonetti (25), Branc (20-5), L. Pellegrini (15), Cerezo (12/3), Nuciari (2), Calcagno (2), Mignani (1).

Top Scorers: 19 Vialli (Sampdoria), 19 Matthaus (Inter); 15 Aguilera (Genoa).

1991-92 — MILAN

Team: Rossi (30); Tassotti (33), Costacurta (30-1), Baresi (33), Maldidni (31-3); Donadoni (30-1), Rijkaard (30-5), Albertini (28-3), Evani (27-1), Massaro (32-9); Gullit (26-7), Van Basten (31-25). Antonioli (4), F. Galli (8), Gambaro (5), Fuser (15-4), Simone (15-7), Ancelotti (12-2). Cornacchini (3), Serena (9).

Top Scorers:

25 Van Basten (Milan); 18 R. Baggio (Juventus); 16 Baiano (Foggia); 15 Careca (Napoli); 14 Sosa (Lazio); 13 Riedle (Lazio) and Batistuta (Fiorentina); 12 Zola (Napoli); 11 Skuhravy (Genoa), Signori (Foggia), Platt (Bari 3) and Vialli (Sampdoria).

A hard road to Wembley

THE Anglo-Italian Cup was devised in 1969 primarily to reward Swindon Town — winners of the League Cup in 1969 — with European football, as their Third Division status barred them from entry into the Fairs Cup.

Swindon won the first tournament, in 1970, beating Napoli 3-0 in a match abandoned after 79 minutes.

The tournament was mothballed in 1975 through lack of interest and the disciplinary problems which have plagued the event.

It was revived this season to boost Anglo-Italian football relations, and to cash in on the interest in the Italian game generated by the exploits of Gascoigne, Platt and Walker in Serie A.

Sadly discipline has again been a problem, with numerous dismissals and bad-tempered matches, and attendances have been poor.

The final takes place at Wembley on March 27 (1.30 kick-off), with the Football League hoping for a crowd of around 45,000 to see big-spending Derby take on Cremonese.

Spot the spectator . . . action from the Cremonese v West Ham match (left).

Spot the ball . . . as Forsyth scores for Derby against Pisa (below).

1992-93 ANGLO-ITALIAN CUP

PRELIMINARY ROUND

Group 1

02.09.92	Derby Co v Notts Co	4-2
15.09.92	Notts Co v Barnsley	1-1
29.09.92	Barnsley v Derby Co	1-2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
DERBY CO	2	2	0	0	6	3	6
Notts Co	2	0	1	1	3	5	1
Barnsley	2	0	1	1	2	3	1

Group 2

02.09.92	Leicester v Grimsby	4-0
16.09.92	Grimsby v Newcastle	2-2
30.09.92	Newcastle v Leicester	4-0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
NEWCASTLE	2	1	1	0	6	2	4
Leicester	2	1	0	1	4	4	3
Grimsby	2	0	1	1	2	6	1

Group 3

01.09.92	Cambridge v Sunderland	1-1
15.09.92	Sunderland v Birmingham	0-1
29.09.92	Birmingham v Cambridge	3-3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BIRMINGHAM	2	1	1	0	4	3	4
Cambridge	2	0	2	0	4	4	2
Sunderland	2	0	1	1	1	2	1

Group 4

01.09.92	Peterborough v Tranmere	0-0
15.09.92	Tranmere v Wolves	2-1
30.09.92	Wolves v Peterborough	2-0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
TRANMERE	2	1	1	1	2	1	4
Wolves	2	1	0	1	3	2	3
Peterborough	2	0	1	1	0	2	1

Group 5

01.09.92	Bristol City v Watford	1-0
15.09.92	Watford v Luton	0-0
29.09.92	Luton v Bristol City	1-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BRISTOL CITY	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Luton	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
Watford	2	0	1	1	0	1	1

Group 6

02.09.92	Millwall v Charlton	1-2
15.09.92	Charlton v Portsmouth	1-3
29.09.92	Portsmouth v Millwall	1-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PORTSMOUTH	2	1	1	0	4	2	4
Charlton	2	1	0	1	3	4	3
Millwall	2	0	1	1	2	3	1

Group 7

01.09.92	Oxford v Swindon	1-3
16.09.92	Swindon v Brentford	1-2
29.09.92	Brentford v Oxford	2-0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BRENTFORD	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
Swindon	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
Oxford	2	0	0	2	1	5	0

Group 8

02.09.92	West Ham v Bristol Rovers	2-2
16.09.92	Bristol Rovers v Southend	3-0
30.09.92	Southend v West Ham	0-3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
WEST HAM	2	1	1	0	5	2	4
Bristol Rovers	2	1	1	0	5	2	4
Southend	2	0	0	2	0	6	0

West Ham went through on toss of coin

INTERNATIONAL STAGE

Group A

11.11.92	Ascoli v Brentford	1-3
11.11.92	Birmingham v Bari	1-0
11.11.92	Lucchese v Newcastle	1-1
11.11.92	Portsmouth v Cesena	2-0
24.11.92	Newcastle v Ascoli	0-1
24.11.92	Bari v Portsmouth	3-0
24.11.92	Brentford v Lucchese	[illegible]
02.12.92	Cesena v Birmingham	[illegible]
08.12.92	Portsmouth v Lucchese	[illegible]
08.12.92	Bari v Newcastle	[illegible]
08.12.92	Birmingham v Ascoli	[illegible]
08.12.92	Cesena v Brentford	[illegible]
16.12.92	Lucchese v Birmingham	[illegible]
16.12.92	Newcastle v Cesena	[illegible]
16.12.92	Ascoli v Portsmouth	[illegible]
16.12.92	Brentford v Bari	[illegible]

English Section

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BRENTFORD	4	4	0	0	7	2	[illegible]
Portsmouth	4	3	0	1	6	5	[illegible]
Birmingham	4	2	1	1	4	5	[illegible]
Newcastle	4	0	2	2	3	7	[illegible]

Italian Section

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BARI	4	2	0	2	7	3	[illegible]
Lucchese	4	1	1	2	5	4	[illegible]
Ascoli	4	1	1	2	4	6	[illegible]
Cesena	4	0	1	3	3	7	[illegible]

Group B

11.11.92	Bristol City v Cosenza	[illegible]
11.11.92	Reggiana v Tranmere	[illegible]
11.11.92	Derby Co v Pisa	[illegible]
11.11.92	Cremonese v West Ham	[illegible]
24.11.92	Cosenza v Derby Co	[illegible]
24.11.92	Tranmere v Cremonese	[illegible]
24.11.92	Pisa v Bristol City	[illegible]
24.11.92	West Ham v Reggiana	[illegible]
08.12.92	Bristol City v Reggiana	[illegible]
08.12.92	Pisa v Tranmere	[illegible]
08.12.92	Derby Co v Cremonese	[illegible]
08.12.92	Cosenza v West Ham	[illegible]
16.12.92	Reggiana v Derby Co	[illegible]
16.12.92	Tranmere v Cosenza	[illegible]
16.12.92	Cremonese v Bristol City	[illegible]
16.12.92	West Ham v Pisa	[illegible]

English Section

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
DERBY CO	4	3	0	1	10	3	[illegible]
Tranmere	4	2	1	1	4	3	[illegible]
West Ham	4	2	1	1	3	2	[illegible]
Bristol City	4	0	1	3	6	10	[illegible]

Italian Section

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
CREMONESE	4	3	1	0	9	4	[illegible]
Pisa	4	1	1	2	4	7	[illegible]
Reggiana	4	1	1	2	2	6	[illegible]
Cosenza	4	1	0	3	3	6	[illegible]

SEMI-FINALS

1st leg

27.01.93	Brentford v Derby Co	[illegible]
03.02.93	Cremonese v Bari	[illegible]

2nd leg

03.02.93	Derby Co v Brentford	[illegible]
	Derby won 5-4 on agg	
17.02.93	Bari v Cremonese	[illegible]
	Cremonese won 6-3 on agg	

FINAL

27.03.93 Cremonese v Derby Co
(at Wembley Stadium)

Leading Scorers

7	FLORJANCIC	Cremonese
5	ALLON	Brentford
	GABBIADINI	Derby
4	KITSON	Derby
	PEMBRIDGE	Derby
	BLISSETT	Brentford
	CAPOCCHIANO	[illegible]

PREVIOUS FINALS

1970	Napoli v Swindon	[illegible]
	Abandoned after 79 mins	
1971	**Bologna v Blackpool**	[illegible]
1972	AS Roma v Blackpool	[illegible]
1973	Fiorentina v Newcastle	[illegible]
1974	Fiorentina v West Ham	[illegible]
1975	Napoli v Southampton	[illegible]

Remaining fixtures

Sunday, March 21
Serie A
Foggia v Ancona
Cagliari v Brescia
Sampdoria v Fiorentina
Pescara v Genoa
Juventus v Inter
Atalanta v Lazio
Roma v Napoli
Milan v Parma
Udinese v Torino

Serie B
Pisa v Ascoli
Lecce v Bari
Spal v Bologna
Ternana v Lucchese
Cremonese v Modena
Cesena v Monza
Padova v Piacenza
Reggiana v Taranto
Cosenza v Venezia
Andria v Verona

Sunday, March 28
Serie A
Napoli v Atalanta
Fiorentina v Cagliari
Parma v Foggia
Ancona v Juventus
Torino v Milan
Inter v Pescara
Brescia v Roma
Genoa v Sampdoria
Lazio v Udinese

Sunday, April 4
Serie A
Brescia v Ancona
Foggia v Atalanta
Roma v Fiorentina
Cagliari v Genoa
Sampdoria v Inter
Udinese v Juventus
Torino v Lazio
Milan v Napoli
Pescara v Parma

Serie B
Verona v Cesena
Monza v Cosenza
Ascoli v Cremonese
Padova v Andria
Modena v Lecce
Bologna v Pisa
Lucchese v Reggiana
Piacenza v Spal
Taranto v Ternana
Bari v Venezia

Saturday, April 10
Serie A
Fiorentina v Brescia
Parma v Cagliari
Lazio v Foggia
Inter v Milan
Atalanta v Pescara
Ancona v Roma
Napoli v Sampdoria
Juventus v Torino
Genoa v Udinese

Serie B
Reggiana v Ascoli
Cesena v Bologna
Bari v Andria
Venezia v Lucchese
Cosenza v Modena
Spal v Monza
Pisa v Padova
Ternana v Piacenza
Cremonese v Taranto
Lecce v Verona

Sunday, April 18
Serie A
Cagliari v Ancona
Udinese v Atalanta
Pescara v Foggia
Torino v Genoa
Brescia v Inter
Milan v Juventus
Roma v Lazio
Fiorentina v Napoli
Sampdoria v Parma

Serie B
Bologna v Bari
Padova v Cesena
Reggiana v Cosenza
Cremonese v Lecce
Andria v Modena
Taranto v Piacenza
Verona v Pisa
Lucchese v Spal
Ascoli v Ternana
Monza v Venezia

Sunday, April 25
Serie A
Inter v Ancona
Genoa v Brescia
Napoli v Cagliari
Juventus v Fiorentina
Udinese v Milan
Lazio v Pescara
Parma v Roma
Atalanta v Sampdoria
Foggia v Torino

Serie B
Bari v Ascoli
Piacenza v Bologna
Venezia v Cremonese
Cesena v Andria
Modena v Lucchese
Pisa v Monza
Ternana v Padova
Spal v Reggiana
Lecce v Taranto
Cosenza v Verona

Sunday, May 2
Serie B
Cesena v Bari
Taranto v Bologna
Pisa v Cosenza
Monza v Lecce
Ascoli v Lucchese
Verona v Modena
Cremonese v Piac
Andria v Spal
Reggiana v Tern
Padova v Venezia

Sunday, May 9
Serie A
Brescia v Atalanta
Juventus v Foggia
Napoli v Genoa
Inter v Lazio
Ancona v Milan
Fiorentina v Parma
Sampdoria v Pesc
Roma v Torino
Cagliari v Udinese

Serie B
Lecce v Ascoli
Piacenza v Cesen

A real contest at last

ONCE treated with complete disdain by the big clubs, the Italian Cup in recent seasons has become keenly contested as witness the quality of this season's four semi-finalists — Milan v AS Roma and Juventus v Torino.

Guess which one of these four is everybody's favourite!

On current form, Milan should have no problems making the final.

The other semi-final, however, will almost certainly prove a much closer run thing with Torino perhaps profiting from the current Juventus form loss to make the most of the Turin derby atmosphere and earn themselves a shot at Milan.

Close together . . . Casiraghi of Juventus and Zoratto of Parma in the quarter-final (left).

Miles apart . . . Gullit pictured during Milan's 10-2 aggregate win over Ternana in the second round (below).

ITALIAN CUP 1992-93

FIRST ROUND
(23.08.92)

Ternana v Piacenza 1-1
Ternana won 5-3 on pens
Sambenedettese v Cagliari 0-1
Avellino v Reggiana 2-4
Spal v Pisa 0-1
Perugia v Cremonese 2-0
Taranto v Lucchese 2-1
Vicenza v Verona 0-4
Casertana v Modena 0-1
Monza v Bologna 1-0
Empoli v Bari 1-2
Messina v Cesena 0-2*
** Tie awarded to Cesena*
Como v Ascoli 1-2
Venezia v Cosenza 2-0
Palermo v Lecce 2-2
Lecce won 7-6 on pens
Genoa v Giarre 2-0
Andria v Padova 3-0

SECOND ROUND
(26.08.92 & 02.09.92) **1st 2nd**

Milan v Ternana 4-0 6-2
Milan won 10-2 on agg
Cagliari v Udinese 2-0 4-4
Cagliari won 6-4 on agg
Reggiana v Inter 3-4 2-4
Inter won 8-5 on agg
Foggia v Pisa 1-0 2-2
Foggia won 3-2 on agg
Fiorentina v Perugia 1-0 3-1
Fiorentina won 4-1 on agg
Roma v Taranto 4-1 3-1
Roma won 7-2 on agg
Brescia v Verona 2-3 1-1
Verona won 4-3 on agg
Napoli v Modena 3-0 3-0
Napoli won 6-0 on agg
Monza v Torino 2-3 0-1
Torino won 4-2 on agg
Bari v Pescara 3-3 3-2
Bari won 6-5 on agg
Sampdoria v Cesena 2-1 0-1
Agg 2-2, Cesena won on away goals
Ascoli v Lazio 0-4 0-1
Lazio won 5-0 on agg
Atalanta v Venezia 1-1 0-2*
** Tie awarded to Venezia*
Parma v Lecce 1-0 0-0
Parma won 1-0 on agg
Ancona v Genoa 2-1 1-5
Genoa won 6-3 on agg
Juventus v Andria 4-0 1-1
Juventus won 5-1 on agg

THIRD ROUND
(07.10.92 & 28.10.92) **1st 2nd**

Foggia v Inter 0-0* 0-2
Inter won 2-0 on agg
** played on October 6*
Milan v Cagliari 3-0 0-0
Milan won 3-0 on agg
Roma v Fiorentina 4-2 1-1
Roma won 5-3 on agg
Napoli v Verona 2-2 0-5
Napoli won 7-1 on agg
Bari v Torino 1-1 0-1
Torino won 2-1 on agg
Cesena v Lazio 1-1 1-3
Lazio won 4-2 on agg
Parma v Venezia 1-0 1-1
Parma won 2-1 on agg
Juventus v Genoa 1-0 4-3
Juventus won 5-3 on agg

QUARTER-FINALS
(27.01.93 & 09.02.93) **1st 2nd**

Milan v Inter 0-0 3-0
Milan won 3-0 on agg
Napoli v Roma 0-0 0-2*
Roma won 2-0 on agg
** played on February 9*
Juventus v Parma 2-1 1-1
Juventus won 3-2 on agg
Lazio v Torino 2-2* 2-3
Torino won 5-4 on agg
** played on January 28*

SEMI-FINALS
First leg (10.03.93)
Milan v Roma
Juventus v Torino

Second leg (31.03.93)
Roma v Milan
Torino v Juventus

FINAL
First leg (12.06.93)
Second leg (19.06.93)

America here we come!

FIFA, Italian coach Arrigo Sacchi and Federation President Antonio Mataresse were all much relieved following Italy's 3-1 World Cup away win against Portugal in February.

Given that win and given the mediocrity of a Group 1 that also involves Switzerland, Scotland, Portugal, Malta and Estonia, the Italians can now start booking their US '94 team hotels.

Despite that win, though, there remain great reservations about this Italian side.

Coach Sacchi continues to change from match to match, which while permissable at club level, generally produces poor results at international level.

Sacchi, however, seems to be one of nature's lucky ones. Against Switzerland in his opening World Cup game, he was losing 2-0 at home with 15 minutes to go, but still drew 2-2 with the very last kick.

Against a wretched Scotland in Glasgow, he can thank only the poor finishing of Gordon Durie for an away point, while against Portugal last month, his side hit the net with their first attack in the second minute.

Cosenza v Cremonese
Ternana v Andria
Modena v Monza
Bari v Padova
Lucchese v Pisa
Venezia v Reggiana
Spal v Taranto
Bologna v Verona

Sunday, May 16
Serie A
Lazio v Ancona
Udinese v Brescia
Torino v Cagliari
Atalanta v Fiorentina
Genoa v Inter
Parma v Juventus
Pescara v Napoli
Milan v Roma
Foggia v Sampdoria

Serie B
Cosenza v Ascoli
Verona v Bari'

Cremonese v Bologna
Pisa v Lecce
Taranto v Lucchese
Monza v Piacenza
Cesena v Reggiana
Padova v Spal
Modena v Ternana
Andria v Venezia

Sunday, May 23
Serie A
Roma v Atalanta
Inter v Foggia
Brescia v Lazio
Cagliari v Milan
Genoa v Parma
Ancona v Pescara
Juventus v Sampdoria
Napoli v Torino
Fiorentina v Udinese

Serie B
Spal v Cesena
Bari v Cosenza

Lucchese v Cremonese
Taranto v Andria
Venezia v Lecce
Bologna v Modena
Ascoli v Monza
Reggiana v Padova
Ternana v Pisa
Piacenza v Verona

Sunday, May 30
Serie A
Udinese v Ancona
Milan v Brescia
Foggia v Cagliari
Torino v Fiorentina
Atalanta v Genoa
Parma v Inter
Pescara v Juventus
Lazio v Napoli
Sampdoria v Roma

Serie B
Andria v Ascoli
Pisa v Bari

Cosenza v Bologna
Monza v Lucchese
Modena v Piacenza
Cremonese v Reggiana
Lecce v Spal
Padova v Taranto
Cesena v Ternana
Verona v Venezia

Sunday, June 6
Serie A
Ancona v Atalanta
Fiorentina v Foggia
Juventus v Lazio
Genoa v Milan
Napoli v Parma
Cagliari v Pescara
Brescia v Sampdoria
Inter v Torino
Roma v Udinese

Serie B
Ascoli v Cesena
Spal v Cosenza

Bari v Cremonese
Piacenza v Andria
Bologna v Lecce
Venezia v Modena
Taranto v Monza
Lucchese v Padova
Reggiana v Pisa
Ternana v Verona

Sunday, June 13
Serie B
Padova v Ascoli
Modena v Bari
Monza v Bologna
Lecce v Lucchese
Cosenza v Piacenza
Andria v Reggiana
Verona v Spal
Cesena v Taranto
Cremonese v Ternana
Pisa v Venezia

A TRIBUTE to BOBBY MOORE, who died on February 24, aged 51, by JEFF PO

Perfectionist to the

The courage of England's World Cup-winning captain

THE MANNER of his leaving was in keeping with the man's way of living.

No commotion, no complaint, no thought for himself and, most typically, no loose ends.

Bobby Moore was the world's most imperious defender and the most immaculate footballer ever to grace the vast theatres of the people's game.

The meticulous attention to detail, the scrupulous care with appearance, the exact precision of time-keeping, the constant observation of manners which maketh a gentleman out of a hero, all were with him to the premature end.

A perfectionist to the last, right down to the uncanny anticipation and instinctive sense of occasion which were the essence of his sporting genius.

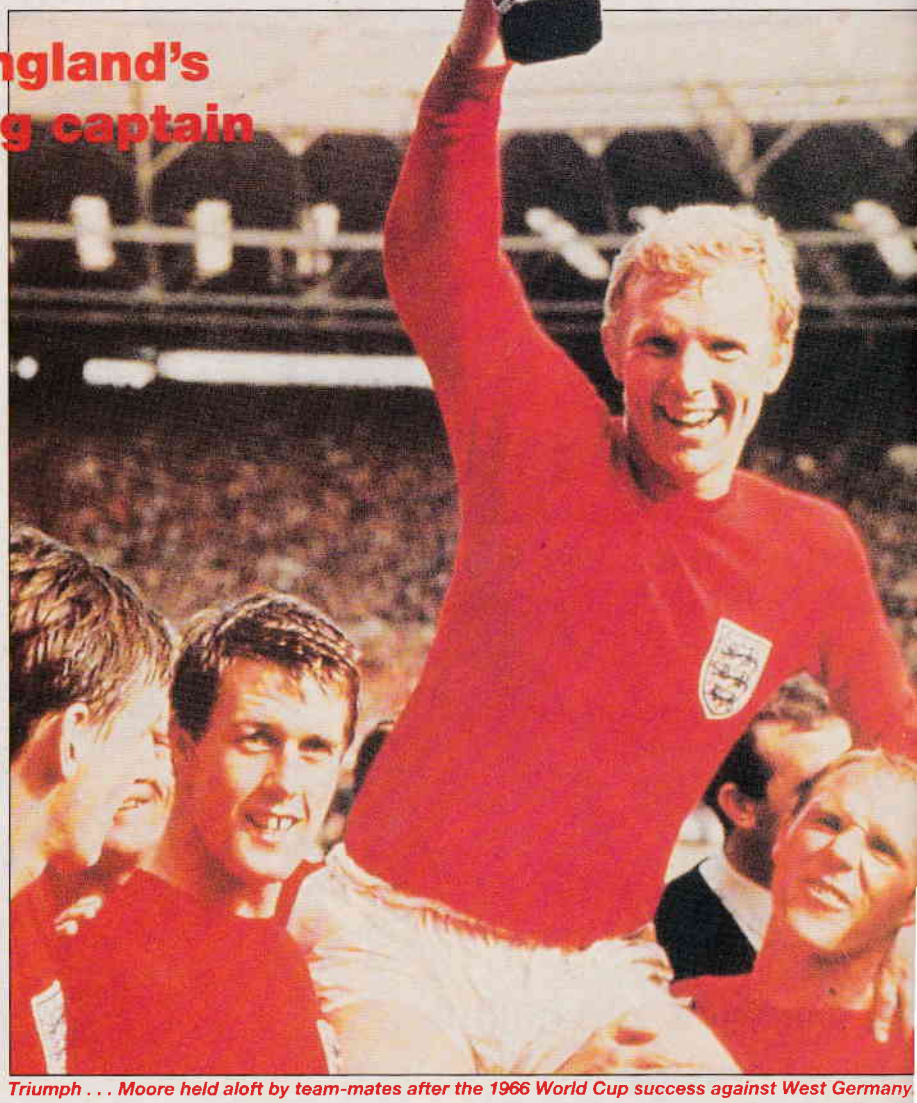
With only days to spare, Moore paid his farewell visits to the places where he had savoured the richest vintage of his fame.

The last public appearance was at Wembley, the nostalgic stadium he made his personal domain. Since it followed the announcement of his cancer the great man's presence at the radio microphone stirred warmer interest than England's World Cup fumblings against San Marino.

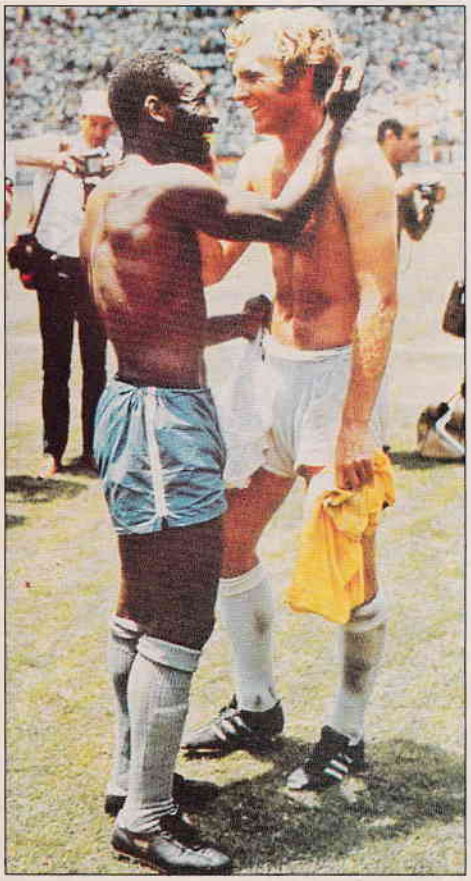
A lot of arms went round those still straight-back shoulders that night, a final, collective embrace from the family of football in all its generations.

No loose ends.

Our last personal reunion took place at the Royal Garden, the Kensington hotel at which the captain and his boys of 1966 had celebrated England's only winning of the World Cup.



Triumph . . . Moore held aloft by team-mates after the 1966 World Cup success against West Germany.



Respect . . . Pele exchanges shirts and smiles with Moore, after Brazil's 1-0 victory over England in Mexico in 1970.

Moore smiled as he remembered that heady, midsummer's evening more than a quarter of a century ago.

"You know, old son, we had the world at our feet that night."

No loose ends.

Beneath his feet, as he spoke, lay a time capsule lodged in the foundation stone of the building, crammed with data on the 20th century, waiting to be opened by some future life form. The exact contents are a secret but for sure the story of how a working-class boy came to take delivery from his Queen of the most prized trophy on the planet has been used to explain how the human species wove so many strands of its very existence into a round-ball game.

Robert Frederick Chelsea Moore — Chelsea after a paternal uncle, not the football club — was born on April 12, 1941, in Barking, a rough-and-tumble town on the cusp of Essex and East London.

From childhood he was painstakingly neat and clean, scrubbed spotless, school socks pulled up straight, a crease in his short pants.

No detail was minute enough to be ignored and this characteristic was the bedrock of his career. Not the most naturally gifted athlete — slow, weak left foot, less than commanding in the air — he applied remorseless practice and rare intelligence to perfecting his strengths and playing to them.

West Ham's Ron Greenwood, a believer in the beautiful game, was the making of Moore, and Alf Ramsey, England's tactical pragmatist, used him to fulfilment. Between them the two managers ch Moore's halcyon years.

The Sixties was the decade in which society the class barriers and patronised lads with more than breeding. The Cockney photographer Gorbals actor, the Yorkshire painter and, led by M the heart-throb footballer stepped over from the v side of the tracks into the most polite drawing r No dinner party was complete without one, not the World Cup was won.

Moore prepared for football's ultimate mome leading West Ham to the 1964 FA Cup and, a Wembley, the 1965 European Cup-winners' Cup all the faultless games there for England and he the hallowed turf like the carpet in his hous Stockbroker Row. He could find his way u staircase to the royal box blindfold.

The 1966 tournament overflowed with sup footballers — Pele, Eusebio, a promising young German called Beckenbauer ranged against th nation in the Final itself — as well as household E names such as Banks and Stiles, Charlton an Hurst and Peters.

But by the time Moore came to climb those once more, to espy Her Majesty's white lace and so wipe his muddied hands on the balustrade before reaching out for the Jules Trophy, there was only one Player o Championship.

The international media's vote was sealed closing moments of extra time against Germany England leading 3-2 — courtesy of a Russian lin — the ice-man laid claim to the ball ami

e final whistle

Poise . . . Moore, playing for West Ham, clears from Manchester United's Bobby Charlton.

PRO-FILE

BOBBY MOORE

WEST HAM, FULHAM & ENGLAND

Born: April 12, 1941 in Barking.

Club record: West Ham 1958-73 (544 games — 22 goals); Fulham 1973-76 (124 games — 1 goal).

International record: England 1962-74 (108 caps — 2 goals); England Under-23 (8 caps).

HONOURS

World Cup: 1966 (as captain).

FA Cup: 1964 (West Ham).

Cup-winners' Cup: 1965 (West Ham).

Footballer of the Year: 1963-64.

Awarded OBE: 1967.

Managerial record: Oxford City; Southend United (1984-86).

pandemonium of his own penalty area; ignored Jack Charlton's bellowing entreaties to kick it over the twin towers, stepped calmly around two lunging opponents and floated out the inch-perfect pass which launched Geoff Hurst towards his historic hat-trick and commentator Ken Wolstenholme into that unforgettable line: "They think it's all over — it is now."

No loose ends.

Pele and Beckenbauer, Eusebio and his own team-mates are in mourning for him now. They knew the real Bobby Moore behind the chilling professional mask and the tackle like a vice, the loveable, loyal man devoid of ego who could laugh and cry with the best of them. They jousted with him through a golden age when not even the loftiest rivals ever lost respect for each other.

They recall not only Wembley '66 but Mexico '70, the World Cup year of Moore's sternest trial.

The ice-man hurried into the finals from house arrest in Bogota, where the Colombian authorities had held him on a preposterous charge of stealing a diamond bracelet. He played majestically, as if nothing but football had ever been on his mind.

At the conclusion of an epic duel in Brazil's group, Pele trotted past all other supplicants among his English opponents to exchange shirts with the man he calls "the finest and most honourable defender I ever played against".

They would surely have met again in the final had Ramsey, by then Sir Alf, not substituted Bobby Charlton at two up against West Germany in the quarter-final and thereby invited the full-grown Franz Beckenbauer to run rampant. Extra-time revisited, but reversed.

So Bobby came home to mutterings about a bracelet instead of carrying another World Cup medal. He maintained a stoic, understated defence, privately and steadfastly protecting the one witness who could have silenced the whispers forever.

Once, late at night, he swore me to secrecy and confided that one of the younger lads in the squad might have done "something foolish, a prank with unfortunate consequences".

No name was forthcoming and he took the culprit's identity with him to the grave.

No loose ends.

Here was loyalty of the highest order from a man who led not by word but by deed and example. When his first marriage to his boyhood sweetheart Tina broke up, and he set up home with his beloved Stephanie, he shouldered all the blame. No complaint. Suffice to say now that there are two sides to every divorce.

It was not always loyalty repaid, not even by the game he dignified.

Sir Alf dropped him for his only notable blunder in more than 100 appearances for his country, a second managerial misjudgment punished when Norman Hunter committed a carbon copy in the return game with Poland which knocked England out of the 1974 World Cup and began the end of the Ramsey era.

Moore the human computer would never have repeated that error had he won another 108 caps, still a record for an outfield player. Only goalkeepers go on for ever. His country gave him the OBE but his game gave him the elbow.

Ramsey described him as "my general on the field who translates our strategy into reality".

His game was built on intelligence and, when still a teenager, he became the youngest holder of the Football Association's full coaching badge.

Yet while his alter-ego Beckenbauer led Germany to another World Cup as head coach, Moore's best offer in management was a mission impossible at Southend. While his great rival Pele became FIFA's ambassador to the world, the FA chose to ignore his treasure-chest of knowledge, even though a succession of England teams were crying out for help.

His radio audience learned that "you can't defend on your backside" while his successor down there on the Wembley pitch kept sliding into difficulty.

Greenwood watched and listened with a smile: "Bobby would stroll across to the near post and catch most of the crosses they put in these days on his chest. In fact he did it so often at West Ham we used to say he would end up with a hole in his chest."

But it was the hole in his stomach which beat him in the end, that and the perforations of his liver. Still no complaint.

"Can't blame it on the old liver," he said at our last meeting. "Did us proud down the years."

I went home and replayed some of the tapes recorded when we had gathered up all his memories into a biography. The recollections are interrupted by the frequent hiss of lager cans being opened. Never mind football, you didn't take on Bobby at drinking.

"A car needs petrol," he used to say. Especially a high-performance job like Bobby Moore.

So when the fuel finally ran out you remembered the night in Turin after he had played against Italy and passed the other Bobby's record number of England caps. It was turned 6am when we wandered back to the hotel and he said: "Back down at seven."

The rest of us complied, looking like death. He reappeared showered and spruce, all in the case of seeing a team of amateur footballers from England onto their tour bus with a crate of champagne.

Last out of the bar, first in for training. That was Bobby Moore, the arch defender, the scourge of the Scots, the envy of the football world. It seemed he was indestructible.

As recently as September he turned up at a charity golf tournament, hit the ball out of sight, then sat down to lunch next to the Barnado's boy who caddied for him. Until December he still looked as if he should be playing for England and thousands despairing of some of the latest generation of defenders wished he would.

Yet long before recognition of his gaunt appearance prompted a recent admission of illness, he knew his days were numbered. When they operated on his colon in April 1991 the specialists told Bobby the condition was terminal. He, in turn, told only the closest family and set about defying the odds.

Moore's in-built strength of will and physique drove him back into training and he held off even the customary ravages of chemotherapy. He treated death with all the respect he gave a dangerous forward, denying his opponent space in which to advance, cutting off his avenues of penetration, diverting him into areas where he could do least damage, always keeping his feet.

Thus he bought himself two years of extra time, played and lived to the full, free from curious intrusion and spared the gush of sentiment he would have found embarrassing. He enjoyed friends unburdened by confirmation of his plight and he worked on, tidying his affairs as he went. His father died years ago and he buried his mother last year.

No loose ends.

Tribute . . . West Ham's fans pay their respects with a floral display at Upton Park.

Although fated never to succeed in business, he was lucky in love. Stephanie, the bright and cultured British Airways girl who had stabilised his life, became his pillar of support in death.

They married in December 1991, in time, in private, with myself and my wife as witnesses-in-chief and delighted to be so. I couldn't remember ever seeing him so happy, an honest man making certain he would be leaving an honest woman.

No loose ends.

When he knew he wasn't going to make his 52nd birthday, when the time came to say goodbye, he looked me in the eye and said: "It's cancer. That's nothing to be ashamed of, is it?"

Ashamed? Not only England, the whole of Britain is proud of him. The style with which he captained his country and the dignity with which he conducted himself remain a monument as to how football should be played and footballers should behave.

A more tangible memorial would not be out of place at Wembley: The Bobby Moore Steps. Because he died as he lived, the first and only Englishman to walk up them and raise the World Cup aloft.

The loss is ours. England has lost a distinguished ambassador, the world of football has lost a giant, Mrs Moore has lost a loving husband. Roberta and Dean have lost a devoted father, little Poppy has lost a grandfather far too young and I have lost a friend who, when the mood and the after-dinner wine took him imagined he could sing like Frank Sinatra.

We'll be seeing him in all the old familiar places.

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EXCLUSIVE:

FA Chief Executive **GRAHAM KELLY** questioned by **BERNARD BALE**

A finger on every button

GRAHAM KELLY, Chief Executive of the Football Association, is the envy of millions. He has a finger on the button of every aspect of English soccer, from the England team to Sunday pub games.

Yet the man with the most powerful position in the English game seems almost anonymous, rarely seen or heard unless called upon to make a statement during some crisis.

There is much more to Graham Kelly than an office at Lancaster Gate, as I found out.

WORLD SOCCER: ***What were your origins?***
GRAHAM KELLY: I'm a Lancashire lad, born just after the Second World War. Football was, and still is, a great passion with me. I played for my school and got as far as county trials. Later I played in local leagues.

I was never destined for stardom, but I enjoyed myself. I used to play in goal, but later switched up front. It was much more enjoyable scoring goals than trying to save them.

I was a Blackpool fan and used to see them during their heyday in the 1950s, although my favourite player, Jimmy Armfield, came later.

WS: ***How does a local league player become top man in English soccer?***
GK: I never set out for anything like that. I left school in 1964, at 18. I had some A levels and got a job with Barclays Bank. Four years later I applied for a vacancy at the Football League's offices in nearby Lytham and that was the start.

In 1973 I became assistant secretary and six years later I was appointed secretary. Early in 1989 I took up my current position with the Football Association and there has never been a dull moment since.

WS: ***To the average fan, your job simply means a free ticket to the FA Cup Final, but there is rather more to it than that. What is a typical week?***
GK: On a recent SUNDAY I attended an FA Sunday Cup tie — I have never been so cold in my life!

On MONDAY I had a series of meetings that started early and finished late.

On TUESDAY there was a meeting of the FA Executive followed by a meeting of the Euro '96 steering committee, then the England v San Marino Under-21 match at Luton.

WEDNESDAY morning I attended a meeting with the finance committee, had lunch with the San Marino officials, then did paperwork before going to Wembley for the World Cup qualifier.

THURSDAY was taken up with a series of other meetings and FRIDAY with a meeting of the Premier club chairmen.

On SATURDAY I attended an FA Trophy tie, and on Sunday it was time to relax, watching football on TV.

I Lose track of the time, sometimes. I am a member of some UEFA committees and that means a lot of travelling and more meetings. In my capacity I also attend four or five UEFA matches each season. You never stop gaining experience, that's the way I like it — I am a very happy man.

WS: ***That statement may come as a surprise to some people, because it's rare that you actually look happy.***
GK: I know. People who don't know me think I'm a miserable so-and-so. That amuses me because I'm not like that. I have a keen sense of humour which many regard as twisted, but I prefer to describe as dry.

In my leisure time, such as it is, I enjoy going to the theatre, especially for comedies. I'm a radio fan — it is always on when I am driving and I have a transistor set on my desk at Lancaster Gate.

I like music of all sorts, though I wouldn't say I'm any sort of expert. I also do a little running to try to keep fit.

But spare time is rare because I am very busy. I have to keep working because I have a son and daughter at University and — as any parent will testify — it means that I can't afford to stop.

WS: ***Talking about money, many people believe that there is too much financial pressure in the game now.***
GK: I don't think so. The game has always been accused of being too commercial, ever since Middlesbrough paid £1,000 for Alf Common in 1905.

At the FA we urge caution. Remember how the Italian national side suffered because the clubs brought in so many foreign players. That is an example of how the misuse of money can make things go wrong.

WS: ***Television has pumped millions of pounds into the game, but is there a danger of saturation?***
GK: I don't think so, but I am aware of the need to monitor the game's development on the box. The Premier clubs get most of the coverage and they don't want to give that up. The First Division clubs are getting coverage they haven't had before and have welcomed the spin-off. But we have to keep some sort of balance.

WS: ***Keeping that balance must depend on who has the loudest voice in the running of soccer in England.***
GK: I believe the game is run fairly, but then I would say that, wouldn't I? The FA Council has many strands. It is made up of representatives of the Premier League, the Football League, the County Associations, the Universities and schools and the services.

In addition there are regular meetings with outside bodies, including the PFA and supporters. Anyone interested in the game can have an opinion aired simply by being a part of any one of those organisations.

It doesn't end there. We constantly seek to go forward. At the moment we are having talks with the League managers' Association to create a code for the benefit of managers. These moves show the FA's dynamism. We are making progress on all fronts and at a good pace.

WS: ***What about the referees? For many years there has been a call for them to be full-time professionals and be attached to clubs, but it never seems to get off the ground.***
GK: The referees have for some time been willing to go to the clubs and spend time with them. But the response from clubs has been lukewarm. That does not really give the referees much confidence in the prospect of going full-time.

WS: ***Is the game likely to face any more rule changes?***
GK: We have had revolutionary changes to the back-pass rule and the professional foul rule. There is a request for an experiment with kick-ins instead of throw-ins, but I don't expect any further major changes.

WS: ***Rumours are still going around about the possibility of a British League.***
GK: That is a political hot potato with too many potential problems. The Scots don't really seem to want it, so I don't see it happening.

WS: ***Could we possibly see a new national soccer stadium?***

GK: I can't see anything like that on the horizon. I know Wembley has its faults, but it would take some replacing. When we played San Marino there were more than 51,000 people. Would that many have turned up anywhere else? If there was to be a new stadium, I believe it would have to be in the South-East of England. That is not meant as an insult to the rest of the country, but based on practicality.

If Manchester get the 2000 Olympics — and I really would love them to — there is the possibility that there will be another stadium to consider. But I can't see us creating something entirely new.

WS: ***What about women's football?***
GK: FA policy is to encourage women's football. We recently appointed a women's football co-ordinator. Perhaps one day we shall see our national team managed by a woman. I don't think it will happen in my lifetime, though!

WS: ***You travel the world. What do you think about soccer in other countries?***
GK: We all learn from each other, but the Germans seem to be the best organised. It is a credit to their hard work, their efficiency and their demeanour.

I'm striving to redress the balance between club and country. There's not much doubt that the balance is currently in favour of the clubs. I feel that the emphasis is misplaced.

The England manager, Graham Taylor, has made no secret of how he sees it and I agree with his sentiments.

David Burnside, our coach, has gone on record as saying that he believes in our players, our ability, our football, but doesn't believe in our system. He is right. If we are to get the international success we want and need, the whole over-emphasis on club football needs attention.

WS: ***And what of the future?***
GK: My hopes are for a consistently successful international team. I want to see young players learning the game properly at grass roots and coming through to international level.

I hope to see the Premier League perceived as successful. It is still considered by many to be just the old First Division with a different name. It is not yet user-friendly. I'm looking forward to the time when the reason for the change has fully registered.

When I'm gone I hope that if people remember me for anything, it will be for the FA Premier League. Now that would make me smile — with satisfaction.

Don't be a rover, Roy

FOREST

Forest fans are desperate for kid Keane to stay

BRIAN CLOUGH has made some shrewd signings in his time (Roy McFarland, Archie Gemmill, Trevor Francis, Stuart Pearce . . . etc).

He's also been known to drop the odd almighty clanger (Justin Fashanu, Peter Ward, Ian Wallace). Even living legends make mistakes.

But when Clough finally brings the curtain down on one of the game's greatest managerial performances, he is almost certain to look back on one signing in particular with unbridled pleasure.

The £10,000 he took from the Nottingham Forest coffers to invest in an unknown Irishman called Roy Keane will surely go down as the best bit of business he ever did.

Some might go even further by suggesting that, potentially and financially, the deal Cloughie struck with Cobh Ramblers was possibly the transfer coup of the century.

With Keane, just 22 this summer, currently valued at anything between £4 and £5 million (Liverpool had a £2.9m offer turned down) who would argue?

Certainly not the man who unearthed the 20th century gem since unleashed on the Premier League to such devastating effect.

"Roy is world class and there aren't many better than him in England," says George Mellerick, Cobh's manager.

"He's the best midfielder I have ever seen and reminds me of Bryan Robson in his prime."

Such overwhelming praise is unlikely to be repeated, publicly at least, by Clough. He is not a man to compliment lightly.

But for someone who refers to his own son as "the number nine" the following statement is as close as he will get to going overboard about one of his players.

"He's a charming young man and has been a fairytale for us," Old Big Head begins.

"I only needed to see him for 20 minutes in the reserves to decide that he was ready for the first team. We haven't seen the best of him — not by a long way."

Clough never has been afraid to blood young players under trying circumstances, but Keane's debut was not so much a baptism of fire as a raging inferno.

He was told an hour beforehand that he would make his introduction against Liverpool . . . at Anfield!

Keane was even unknown to some of the Forest players that day and he recalls: "They had to ask who I was!"

But Clough's unique brand of psychology, a winner 100 times over, paid dividends again. Keane emerged from the ordeal with his nerve intact and proceeded to stride confidently from strength to strength.

Too confidently at times.

After he celebrated an FA Cup goal against Norwich with a Hugo Sanchez-type somersault, Clough clipped his wings by warning him: "If I'd wanted a clown I'd have gone to the circus."

The message, delivered in time-honoured Clough style, had the desired effect of keeping the effervescent young Keane's feet on the ground . . . literally.

Celebrations since have been considerably more reserved, although Keane did allow himself a more poignant display of showmanship recently when speculation about his future was at its height.

Liverpool, Blackburn Rovers, Arsenal and even Real Madrid and Barcelona had been expressing interest and, with outrageous fees being quoted, his army of fans were growing anxious.

But after scoring against Southampton, Keane rushed towards the throng of Forest supporters, tugged at his red shirt and kissed the club badge in an emotional show of loyalty.

Now the same Forest fans who rose to salute him hope he will underline that devotion by signing an extended and considerably more lucrative contract at the end of the season.

Keane SAYS he will; Clough BELIEVES he will; the Forest faithful PRAY he will.

Having lost one City Ground idol — Des Walker — within the past year, they could not bear to see another rare talent slip away.

The recent Keane cry of "I'm happy to stay" is so, so welcome.

Reports suggest that the next City Ground deal he signs will be worth in the region of £6,500 a week.

Not bad for a lad who, at one time, could not even persuade Forest to give him a trial . . . even though he offered to pay his own fare from Ireland.

Only when Spurs, Blackburn and Port Vale began closing in did Cloughie act. With accolades for his star performer now rolling in from all around the world, he's glad he did.

After Keane's performance of maturity and authority for the Republic of Ireland against Spain earlier in the season, even Diego Maradona pronounced: "There was nobody to touch him. I was impressed by everything he did."

Sevilla president Luis Cuervas, whose club played host to Keane's solo show, supported Maradona's claim and added: "We must be interested in bringing him to Seville if at all possible."

If Clough has his way, Cuervas and Keane's many other admirers outside Nottingham will be disappointed.

Should the unthinkable happen, however, and the boy Roy decides to take somebody else's money and run, consolation could be just a ferry fare away for Cloughie. Keane's younger brother Pat, another Cobh Ramblers find, is ready to follow in his footsteps.

Sign here please.

DAVE **SMITH**

Vigilance is still vital

Maine Road scenes reopen some wounds

THE FA Cup quarter-finals produced three six-goal thrillers and a dull 0-0 draw, but events at Maine Road overshadowed all as hooliganism appeared once more.

The tie between Manchester City and Tottenham was interrupted, with three minutes remaining, as around 200 City supporters invaded the pitch. Spurs were 4-2 up at the time and the invasion was most likely a futile attempt to have the match abandoned and replayed.

The players were taken from the pitch by referee Ray Lewis (who was in charge at the Hillsborough disaster in 1988) after some ugly scenes, but returned 15 minutes later after stewards and police — some on horseback — had removed the invaders.

City chairman Peter Swales was disgusted with the invasion, but believed that it was more misguided than violent, saying: "People were just putting two fingers up at authority.

"I feel betrayed. It is my worst day in football, we've been let down by a minority. They were obnoxious."

But with the game being shown live in Britain and around Europe it was not a good advert for English soccer and has reopened the debate about whether or not fans should be fenced in.

England will host the next European Championship in 1996 and the Maine Road invasion will have been a severe embarrassment to the FA, who have been happily promoting the idea that hooliganism is no longer a problem in England.

In reality, hooliganism never went away, it was merely better controlled. Fans will invade pitches if they want to, regardless of fences, moats or the threat of punishment.

The events at Maine Road hopefully will serve as a reminder to those in power that vigilance at all times is a vital part of maintaining English soccer's recent trouble-free appearance. The Manchester Olympic Bid Committee also were hugely disappointed that such pictures were beamed around the world at such a delicate time in the run-up to the decision about the venue of the Games in 2000. Doubly embarrassing for them was that this should happen at a time when one of their rivals, Milan, withdrew.

Tottenham, of course, were not to be denied by the hooligans, and a Nayim hat-trick in the 4-2 victory sets up a second Wembley semi-final with Arsenal in three years.

George Graham's side overcame a potentially awkward trip to Portman Road, where they beat Ipswich 4-2. Ipswich, one of the biggest surprises of the first Premier League season and with only two home defeats since April, took the lead through Chris Kiwomya but were overrun in the second half.

Big-spending Derby County, of the First Division, gave Sheffield Wednesday an almighty fright in their meeting at the Baseball Ground. Wednesday, beaten only once in 14 games, came from behind to force a 3-3 draw and a Hillsborough replay.

Paul Warhurst, the Wednesday centre-half reluctantly converted into striker because of injuries to Mark Bright and David Hirst, continued his remarkable run with a goal in the first half and the equaliser five minutes from time to bring his total to 11 in 11 games since the switch, including seven in consecutive matches.

Blackburn and Sheffield United fought out a tedious 0-0 draw at Ewood Park that will have pleased Dave Bassett rather more than Kenny Dalglish.

Rovers have been struggling of late and will not relish a Bramall Lane replay where Bassett's raggle-taggle assortment of bargain buys and home-grown youngsters already have accounted for Manchester United.

The Coca-Cola Cup final will be between Arsenal and Sheffield Wednesday. Arsenal booked their place with a comfortable 5-1 aggregate victory over Crystal Palace. The few doubts left after a 3-1 away win were removed by Andy Linighan's seventh-minute goal and Ian Wright's 51st for the club in only 70 matches.

Wednesday, having won the first leg 4-2 at Ewood Park, completed the job with a 2-1 victory at home.

By coincidence, Arsenal also could meet Wednesday in the FA Cup final. This would be the first time two clubs had clashed in the finals of both tournaments in the same season.

The race for the Premier League title is still a three-horse affair, with Norwich clinging on behind Manchester United and Aston Villa.

United showed that they are a more resilient force than last season by bouncing back from their Bramall Lane FA Cup upset with a 2-1 win against Southampton at Old Trafford.

That result could prove to be the pivotal point in their season, restoring pride and self-belief — vital ingredients in a title-winning side.

Last season, defeat at Anfield signalled the end of United's hopes. This season a 2-1 victory marked their improvement. Nagging doubts still remain though, amply demonstrated by a 1-0 midweek defeat at bottom club Oldham.

Ron Atkinson's Aston Villa are pushing United all the way and show no signs of letting up, although they dropped a home point to Spurs.

Norwich have overcome a difficult period and remain in contention. They will still have a big say in the destination of the title, as both United and Villa must still go to Carrow Road.

Forest finally moved off the bottom but are still in danger, and have signed Coventry striker Robert Rosario for £400,000 to strengthen their lightweight attack.

Middlesbrough, Sheffield United and Crystal Palace are still in danger. So too, surprisingly, are champions Leeds, Everton and Liverpool.

Such are the growing doubts about Liverpool's survival that, for the first time in 20 years, bookmakers are accepting bets on their being relegated! And with good reason too. The current form table shows Middlesbrough at the bottom, followed by Chelsea, Oldham and Liverpool.

Chelsea's run of 12 games without a victory cost manager Ian Porterfield his job. Former Stamford Bridge favourite David Webb is the new man in charge.

JOHN **KELLY**

Unwelcome intruders . . . City fans congratulate Terry Phelan after his goal against Spurs.

Money down the drain

THE Konica League's inaugural season in Wales has been a success so far despite the poor quality of playing surface at some grounds.

The renowned rain-dominated climate of the country means that if drainage is poor then playing conditions are bad, and with only volunteer groundstaff in most cases the surfaces deteriorate rapidly.

Clubs with the better grounds are now pressing the FAW to enforce criteria for quality, perhaps even at the expense of other facilities over the short term. Most clubs are spending on improving spectator facilities to meet FAW guidelines.

Cwmbran Town's emphatic 3-0 win over title rivals Inter Cardiff has made things even tighter at the top. Aberystwyth won at Abergavenny to keep in touch, and with games in hand remain slight favourites.

Ebbw Vale continue to impress but they let Haverfordwest County back into the race by dropping a point in their recent encounter.

The Welsh Cup semi-finals paired Wrexham with Cardiff City and Rhyl against Connah's Quay Nomads.

Rhyl finally ended Llansantffraid FC's 12-month unbeaten record with a 4-0 away win, three of the goals coming in the last five minutes.

The row between Wales and Manchester United is brewing once more. The FAW are angry that Ryan Giggs always seems to be injured when required for his country, and they are now threatening to invoke his release under FIFA rules. The same occurred last season with Mark Hughes.

Meanwhile, the long-standing question of goalkeeper Neville Southall's eventual successor seems to have been answered, according to some commentators.

Roger Freestone of Swansea City, a former under-21 international, is in exceptional form, and has impressed national team manager Terry Yorath.

Freestone, now 24, arrived from reserve football at Chelsea, and his confidence has grown with his return to first-team soccer.

MEL AP IOR **THOMAS**

NEWS of a record in the Football League, set by . . . Hartlepool United. The Second Division side set the unwanted record by going 1,227 minutes WITHOUT scoring a goal!

The club finally broke their spell with a goal by Andy Saville after 51 minutes of the 1-1 draw away to Blackpool. Ironically Saville scored their previous goal, from the penalty spot, in the 1-0 FA Cup defeat of Premier League strugglers Crystal Palace on January 2.

Unlucky Jess must wait to prove himself

ALMOST 16 years have passed since Kenny Dalglish left Scotland.

At last a possible successor has been discovered. Aberdeen's Eoin Jess is the player who has been crowned (or burdened) as "the new Dalglish" by many, only to have his career interrupted by a broken ankle.

The 22-year-old Jess gained his second cap in the 3-0 World Cup victory over Malta at Ibrox, contributing significantly in the build-up to all Scotland's goals.

Aberdeen manager Willie Miller is anxious to play down such comparisons, but, in assessing the majestic style in which Jess plays the game it is virtually impossible not to liken him to the great stars of the past.

Then, in a mundane game, Jess was carried off and will miss the rest of the season. Speculation about his future must wait until he proves his fitness.

Jess, who was rejected by Rangers as a youngster, had trials with both Liverpool and Hibernian before joining his home-town team.

Airdrie, last season's beaten Cup finalists, have been in the Premier Division relegation zone for most of this term, but their combative style has ensured a higher degree of media attention than normal. That situation was greatly enhanced by the surprise signing of Justin Fashanu from Torquay. Fashanu, a self-confessed bisexual, has appeared on the front pages of the tabloids more often than on the back of late.

Manager Jim McLean is to leave Dundee United at the end of the season. He has been there since 1972, and is easily the longest-serving manager in Britain.

ALAN **FAIRLEY**

Wright on top

FLICKERING hopes of a place in the '94 World Cup finals for Northern Ireland were kept alive with a 2-1 victory over Albania in Tirana.

Jim Magilton and Alan McDonald scored, and Tommy Wright — currently playing with Newcastle's reserves but No. 1 for Billy Bingham — showed his prowess with several spectacular saves, including one from a penalty.

Champions Glentoran finally waved goodbye to any lingering hopes of retaining the title when beaten 2-1 at home by Carrick Rangers.

Carrick repeated the dose three days later, by the same score, in the final of the County Antrim Shield — their first trophy since they became a senior club in 1983, and a fitting way for Kenny Shiels to celebrate a year as manager.

Ards created a club record when they defeated amateur team Drumaness Mills in the Cup. That was their 14th successive match without defeat, passing their previous best in 1957-58, the only season that they won the title.

Ballymena, conquerors of Cup-holders Glenavon, went out 2-0 at Cliftonville in the next round. Their hat-trick hero against Glenavon, Neil Candlish, was substituted, and lost discipline meant that they finished with only nine men.

ROY **KITSON**

RESULTS

ENGLAND

PREMIER LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manchester Utd	31	17	9	5	49	24	60
Aston Villa	31	17	8	6	48	31	59
Norwich	31	15	8	8	44	46	53
QPR	31	13	8	10	44	37	47
Sheffield Wed	30	12	10	8	40	34	46
Coventry	32	12	10	10	45	41	46
Blackburn	30	12	9	9	43	32	45
Ipswich	31	10	14	7	37	34	44
Tottenham	31	12	8	11	39	47	44
Man City	30	12	7	11	43	34	43
Southampton	32	11	9	12	40	40	42
Arsenal	30	11	7	12	27	27	40
Chelsea	31	10	10	11	33	38	40
Leeds Utd	31	10	9	12	41	47	39
Everton	32	11	6	15	36	42	39
Liverpool	30	9	9	12	40	42	36
Wimbledon	31	9	9	13	36	39	36
Crystal Palace	31	8	11	12	37	47	35
Sheffield Utd	31	9	7	15	37	41	34
Middlesbrough	31	8	9	14	39	52	33
Nottm. Forest	30	8	8	14	30	39	32
Oldham	30	7	7	16	41	55	28

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

MIDWEEK

LEEDS 0
MANCHESTER UTD 0. **Att:** 30,413.

IPSWICH 1 (Thompson 40)
QPR 1 (White 80). **Att:** 17,354.

SHEFFFIELD UTD 2 (Carr 38, Deane 60)
MIDDLESBROUGH 0. **Att:** 15,184.

EVERTON 1 (Sansom 29)
TOTTENHAM 2 (Mabbutt 26, Allen 69). **Att:** 16,164.

ARSENAL 0
WIMBLEDON 1 (Holdsworth 19).
Att: 18,253.

CHELSEA 0
LIVERPOOL 0. **Att:** 20,981.

CRYSTAL PALACE 1 (Bowry 9)
ASTON VILLA 0. **Att:** 12,270.

SOUTHAMPTON 3 (Hall 9, Adams 25, Banger 78)
NORWICH 0. **Att:** 12,969.

COCA-COLA (LEAGUE) CUP — SEMI-FINAL, 1ST LEG

BLACKBURN 2 (Wegerle 9, Palmer 37 o.g.)
SHEFFIELD WED 4 (Harkes 14, Sheridan 21, Warhurst 26, 30). **Att:** 17,283.

FA CUP — 4TH ROUND REPLAY

GRIMSBY 2 (Mendonca 19, Gilbert 73)
SWANSEA 0. **Att:** 8,452.

WEEKEND

CHELSEA 0
ASTON VILLA 1 (Houghton 21).
Att: 20,081.

LEEDS 2 (McAllister pen 18, Chapman 79)
OLDHAM 0. **Att:** 27,654.

SOUTHAMPTON 2 (Maddison 24, Banger 74)
LIVERPOOL 1 (Hutchison 61).
Att: 17,216

FA CUP — 5TH ROUND

TOTTENHAM 3 (Anderton 25, Sheringham 44, Barmby 45)
WIMBLEDON 2 (Dobbs 63, Cotterill 90). **Att:** 26,594.

MANCHESTER CITY 2 (White 43, 64)
BARNSLEY 0. **Att:** 32,807.

BLACKBURN 1 (Wegerle 89)
NEWCASTLE 0. **Att:** 19,972.

SHEFFIELD WED 2 (Warhurst 43, 55)
SOUTHEND 0. **Att:** 26,446.

SHEFFIELD UTD 2 (Hoyland 34, Hodges 40)
MANCHESTER UTD 1 (Giggs 30).
Att: 18,345.

DERBY 3 (Short 5, 63, Williams 68)
BOLTON 1 (Walker 30). **Att:** 20,289.

ARSENAL 2 (Wright 21, 45)
NOTTM. FOREST 0. **Att:** 27,521.

IPSWICH 4 (Guentchev 29, 73, 90, Wark 59)
GRIMSBY 0. **Att:** 17,894.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

MIDWEEK

SHEFFIELD WED 2 (Warhurst 27, Wilson 71)
CRYSTAL PALACE 1 (Armstrong 62). **Att:** 26,459.

NORWICH 2 (Robins 28, Power 30)
MANCHESTER CITY 1 (Sheron 46). **Att:** 16,386.

OLDHAM 0
ARSENAL 1 (Linighan 50). **Att:** 12,311.

MIDDLESBROUGH 1 (Phillips 61)
NOTTM. FOREST 2 (Clough 60, Stone 69).
Att: 15,639.

BLACKBURN 2 (Newell 8, 63)
CHELSEA 0. **Att:** 15,223

ASTON VILLA 2 (Cox 12, Barrett 17)
EVERTON 1 (Beardsley 24 pen).
Att: 32,913.

WIMBLEDON 2 (Fashanu 2, Dobbs 44)
SHEFFIELD UTD 0. **Att:** 3,979.

MANCHESTER UTD 2 (Gibbs 82, 83)
SOUTHAMPTON 1 (Banger 77).
Att: 36,257.

TOTTENHAM 4 (Sheringham 9, 38, 63 pen, Ruddock 49)
LEEDS UTD 0. **Att:** 32,040.

LIVERPOOL 0
IPSWICH 0. **Att:** 36,680.

QPR 2 (Pearce 33 o.g., Peacock 41)
COVENTRY 0. **Att:** 12,453.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

MIDWEEK

NOTTM. FOREST 1 (Crosby 10)
QPR 0. **Att:** 22,436.

SHEFFIELD 2 (Gannon 45, Littlejohn 70)
OLDHAM 0. **Att:** 14,628.

MAN CITY 1 (Quinn 83)
SHEFFIELD WED 2 (Anderson 12, Warhurst 81).
Att: 23,619.

WEEKEND

EVERTON 2 (Beardsley 20 pen, Barlow 61)
OLDHAM 2 (Adams 87 pen, 88).
Att: 18,025.

SHEFFIELD WED 1 (Anderson 82)
LIVERPOOL 1 (Hutchison 87).
Att: 33,964.

NORWICH 0
BLACKBURN 0. **Att:** 15,163.

CRYSTAL PALACE 0
COVENTRY 0. **Att:** 12,248.

ASTON VILLA 1 (Yorke 79)
WIMBLEDON 0. **Att:** 34,496.

LEEDS 1 (Dorigo 72 pen)
IPSWICH 0. **Att:** 28,848.

MANCHESTER UTD 3 (Giggs 20, Irwin 79, Cantona 85)
MIDDLESBROUGH 0. **Att:** 36,251.

SOUTHAMPTON 3 (Moore 2, Kenna 5, Dowie 40)
SHEFFIELD UTD 2 (Gayle 37, Bryson 83).
Att: 13,814.

TOTTENHAM 3 (Sheringham 8, 31, Anderton 59)
QPR 2 (Peacock 86, White 89). **Att:** 32,341.

NOTTM. FOREST 0
MAN CITY 2 (White 19, Flitcroft 87).
Att: 25,965.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 7

MIDWEEK

NORWICH 1 (Fox 36)
ARSENAL 1 (Wright 82). **Att:** 19,000.

EVERTON 2 (Hendry 59 o.g. Cottee 71)
BLACKBURN 1 (May 42). **Att:** 18,086.

COVENTRY 1 (Gynn 44)
SHEFFIELD WED 0. **Att:** 13,206.

IPSWICH 0
MIDDLESBROUGH 1 (Wilkinson 35). **Att:** 15,430.

SHEFFIELD UTD 6 (Carr 13, Gray 21 o.g., Bryson 28, 29, Deane 73, Rogers 87)
TOTTENHAM 0. **Att:** 16,654.

CHELSEA 1 (Stuart 81)
ARSENAL 0. **Att:** 17,725.

WEEKEND

COVENTRY 0
EVERTON 1 (Ward 8). **Att:** 14,250.

WIMBLEDON 1 (Holdsworth 22)
SOUTHAMPTON 2 (Le Tissier 34, Moore 71).
Att: 4,534.

LIVERPOOL 1 (Rush 50)
MANCHESTER UTD 2 (Hughes 42, McClair 56).
Att: 44,374.

QPR 3 (Ferdinand 19, 34, Wilson 79)
NORWICH 1 (Robins 39). **Att:** 13,892.

NOTTM. FOREST 1 (Keane 24)
CRYSTAL PALACE 1 (Southgate 23). **Att:** 20,603.

FA CUP — QUARTER-FINALS

MAN CITY 2 (Sheron 10, Phelan 84)
TOTTENHAM 4 (Nayim 25, 48, 85, Sedgley 44).
Att: 34,000.

IPSWICH 2 (Kiwomya 16, Guentchev 77)
ARSENAL 4 (Adams 29, Wright 62 pen, Whelan 72 o.g., Campbell 89). **Att:** 22,054.

BLACKBURN 0
SHEFFIELD UTD 0. **Att:** 15,107.

DERBY 3 (Nicholson 29, Gabbiadini 71, Kitson 75)
SHEFFIELD WED 3 (Sheridan 13 pen, Warhurst 37, 85). **Att:** 22,511.

SCOTLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

MIDWEEK

CUP — 4TH ROUND REPLAYS

HIBERNIAN 1 (McGinlay 41)
COWDENBEATH 0. **Att:** 8,701.

ST JOHNSTONE 1 (Davies 99)
KILMARNOCK 0. *(Aet)*. **Att:** 7,144.

WEEKEND

ABERDEEN 1 (Paatelainen 40)
CELTIC 1 (Payton 74). **Att:** 15,000.

DUNDEE 1 (Stainrod 55)
ST JOHNSTONE 0. **Att:** 5,031.

HEARTS 3 (McKinlay 52, Thomas 76, Taylor o.g. 85)
FALKIRK 1 (Cadette 88). **Att:** 7,770.

MOTHERWELL 0
HIBERNIAN 0. **Att:** 5,021.

PARTICK 0
DUNDEE UTD 4 (Crabbe 13 pen, Connolly 65, 73, Fergusson 80). **Att:** 4,135.

RANGERS 2 (McCoist 24, 30)
AIRDRIE 2 (Coyle 13,69). **Att:** 39,846.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

MIDWEEK

PARTICK 0
HIBERNIAN 3 (McGinlay 41, 61, Weir 64). **Att:** 3,340.

CUP — 4TH ROUND REPLAY

EAST FIFE 1 (Sludden 12)
ARBROATH 4 (Tosh 15, 83, Martin 46, 52). **Att:** 3,722.

WEEKEND

HIBERNIAN 1 (McCall 82)
MOTHERWELL 3 (Weir 8 o.g., McGrillen 11, Dolan 89). **Att:** 4,536.

CELTIC 0
PARTICK 0. **Att:** 15,536.

DUNDEE UTD 0
RANGERS 0. **Att:** 13,234.

AIRDRIE 0
HEARTS 0. **Att:** 4,500.

ST JOHNSTONE 0
ABERDEEN 2 (Jess 33, Booth 90).
Att: 6,176.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

MIDWEEK

MOTHERWELL 0
RANGERS 4 (McCoist 76, Hateley 83, 88, Mikhailchenko 89). **Att:** 14,006.

ABERDEEN 0
DUNDEE UTD 0. **Att:** 12,500.

DUNDEE 0
CELTIC 1 (Payton 45). **Att:** 7,370.

WEEKEND

ABERDEEN v PARTICK — *postponed.*

HIBERNIAN 3 (Jackson 15, 54, McGinlay 87 pen)
AIRDRIE 1 (Black 1). **Att:** 5,009.

FALKIRK 0
CELTIC 3 (McAvennie 55, Payton 60, 89). **Att:** 8,500.

MOTHERWELL 1 (Dolan 21)
ST JOHNSTONE 1 (Redford 3).
Att: 4,278.

DUNDEE UTD 1 (Fergusson 9)
DUNDEE 0. **Att:** 12,140.

RANGERS 2 (McCoist 11, Robertson 32)
HEARTS 1 (Millar 79). **Att:** 42,128.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 7

MIDWEEK

ABERDEEN 1 (Paatelainen 81)
PARTICK 0. **Att:** 8,200.

WEEKEND

DUNDEE 1 (Rix 15)
MOTHERWELL 1 (Griffin 82)
Att: 3,370.

AIRDRIE 1 (Fashanu 25)
DUNDEE UTD 3 (Ferguson 17, Connolly 44, Clark 44). **Att:** 2,500.

CUP — QUARTER-FINALS

HEARTS 2 (Preston 41, Robertson 46 pen)
FALKIRK 0. **Att:** 12,721.

HIBERNIAN 2 (Tweed 34, Wright 68)
ST JOHNSTONE 0. **Att:** 10,785.

ABERDEEN 1 (Shearer 2 pen)
CLYDEBANK 1 (McIntosh 82).
Att: 11,300.

ARBROATH 0
RANGERS 3 (Hateley 14, Murray 31, McCoist 65 pen).
Att: 8,810.

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rangers	31	24	6	1	76	24	54
Aberdeen	31	19	7	5	65	22	45
Celtic	32	15	11	6	49	31	41
Hearts	32	13	11	8	35	29	37
Dundee Utd	33	14	8	11	37	34	36
Hibernian	32	9	11	12	40	45	29
Dundee	33	9	9	15	40	51	27
St Johnstone	33	8	11	13	37	51	27
Motherwell	33	7	11	15	35	51	25
Partick Thistle	32	8	9	15	35	54	25
Falkirk	32	8	4	20	44	72	20
Airdrie	33	4	12	17	24	53	20

Argentina

Maradona overshadows the celebrations

THE RETURN of Diego Maradona to the national team after an absence of 32 months overshadowed all else in Argentina's Centenary Celebration match against Brazil in Buenos Aires.

Even the banquet the evening before was overshadowed by Maradona's award of a medal as top Argentine player of all time. Maradona thought the honour was "too much as there were others who deserved it as much as me."

The match was held up for 15 minutes because when Maradona took the field he was immediately surrounded by photographers, reporters and crowds of youngsters.

As for the game, Maradona made some clever passes and was excellent in deal-ball situations. But his lack of speed slowed down Argentina's midfield where he had taken over from the much quicker Leo Rodriguez.

Coach Alfio Basile has a problem on his hands: can he persist with Maradona, as he will be pressed to do, at the expense of the pace of his attacking build-up?

The media was not impressed by either the match or its organisation.

Perhaps too much was expected of such expensive players on both sides, valued at a total of $60 million. At least we saw South America's top sides with all their foreign-based stars for once.

Mexico's America would not release Argentine defender Oscar Ruggeri until the last moment when the Argentine FA appealed to FIFA — the players have a release clause written into their contracts — while both Diegos (Maradona and Simeone) came without Sevilla's permission.

The Spanish club ordered them back for Sunday's League match — which they did, before flying back to Buenos Aires for the Franchi Trophy match against Denmark two days later, aga without Sevilla's permission.

For the record, this was Argentina 22nd full international unbeaten — al during coach Alfio Basile's reign.

Their last defeat came against Germany in the 1990 World Cup Fina which was also Maradona's last previous match.

Both the unbeaten stretch and Maradona's 80 caps are Argentine records.

Argentina and Brazil, who first met 1908, have played 78 times with Argentina leading 33-26 in wins with 19 draws. Argentina has not lost any of their last five meetings.

Among the distinguished visitors a Argentina v Brazil was Bobby Charlton, who had also gone to Buenos Aires to promote Manchester's candidacy for the 2000 Olympic Games.

The following Sunday he played for a British Embassy team against a sid raised by Carlos Menem, the Argentine President. Both Charlton and Menem played an old-fashioned centre-half role but the President's men won 14-9.

Attacking . . . Maradona up against the Brazilian defence in Buenos Aires.

100 YEARS AGO

Argentina's first Championship

THE Argentine Association Football League — today known as the Asociacion del Futboll Argentino — was formed in February 1893, in Buenos Aires.

Founding president was Alexander Watson Hutton still revered as the father of Argentine football.

Watson Hutton had come from Scotland in 1882 to become headmaster of St Andrew's Scots School in Buenos Aires. Being a soccer enthusiast, he quickly got the boys at this school interested and, when a few years later he opened his own school in Buenos Aires — the England High School — he engaged William Walters, a player from Scotland, as games master and football instructor.

The 1893 meeting to form an association was a logical conclusion of growing interest in the game among the British community.

Watson Hutton was president of the league for the first four years. Five clubs entered the first leag championship — Lomas Athletic Club from traditionally British community suburb of the sa name and which still exists but does not p professional soccer today; Quilmes Rovers a Flores from two other traditionally "British" subur Buenos Aires-Rosario Railway Club (for Brit employees of the then British-owned railways) a of course, English High School.

Lomas AC won the first championship unbeat In fact, they won the title for the first six years succession (changing their name for one to Lom Academicals).

They could be called the first great Argent team, although there was not much"Argentin about their unusual line-up: F. Carter, P.M. Ra C.W. Reynolds, P. Bridger, T. Bridge, A. Buchan A.H. Anderson, F.H. Jacobs, W. Leslie, G. Leslie a W.G. Cowes.

Argentines were attracted into the game at turn of the century.

The English High School finally won their first in 1900, then changed their name to Alumni a became champions nine more times in the next years.

Three go to Japan

COLOMBIA, Chile and Argentina go to Japan later this year for the World Junior Championship, after filling the first three places at the South American Under-17s event.

Defending champions Brazil finished fourth and bottom of the final round, but it was so close that until the final whistle of the last match — with hosts Colombia — none of the four teams were sure in which position they would finish.

When Brazil took a 2-1 lead in the second half, they could have retained the title, with Colombia finishing bottom.

Then Colombia equalised and they changed positions.

The six final-round games had produced four draws and two one-goal victories.

OMAR CANAS, of Nacional Medellin, was kidnapped and killed early February in Colombia. His body was found with those of three others who had been in his car.

Canas, who played for Colombia in the 1989 World Youth Cup (U-20), had received death threats last year along with other players called up for the national team including Rene Higuita, Leonel Alvarez and Gabriel Gomez.

ANGEL COMIZZO, a reserve goalkeeper in Argentina's last World Cup squad, was axed by River Plate coach Daniel Passarella, obtained his release for $30,000 and signed for Colombia's America.

SERGIO VAZQUEZ, Argentine international defender who played for Rosario Central this season and whose contract is owned by players' agent Settimo Aloisio, has moved to Universidad Catolica (Chile) for six months.

NERY PUMPIDO, who dropped out of the Argentine national team after breaking his leg in the 1990 World Cup, signed for Lanus.

JOSE LUIS VILLARREAL, Boca Juniors' international midfielder, was signed by Atletico Madrid on the recommendation of their new Argentine coach, Omar Pastoriza.

ERIC WEIL

Colombia

Deportivo part with Company

DEPORTIVO CALI replaced their coach two days before the new Colombian season began.

Peruvian Miguel Company had a disagreement with the president, Carlos Arcesio Paz, over a member of the coaching staff. After some heated internal discussions, Company was dismissed, after 18 months in charge.

For Deportivo's city rivals, America, the new season has been the story of goalkeepers. With Colombian international Eduardo Nino on the long-term injury list, the club signed Angel David Comizzo from River Plat where he had fallen out of favour wit coach Daniel Passerella.

Comizzo did not play against Nacional of Medellin in the Libertadores Cup, Julio Gomez filling in, but only until he was sent off and replaced by his younger brother, Diego. When Comizzo finally made h debut, he was sent off — though not before saving a penalty.

America defeated Atletico Huila 1-0 away on Huila's debut at professiona level. They drew a healthy crowd of over 18,000.

The beginning of the season came too soon for Millonarios. For the opener, the traditional Bogota derby against Santa Fe, Millos had no foreigners after Argentines Cufaro Russo and Ortega Sanchez decided stay at home and Uruguayan striker Peter Mendez injured himself. He is expected to be out for about five months. This season clubs are allowed four foreign players, with three permitted to play.

KEITH SMIT

Boca buy big

THE national championship in Argentina restarted after the summer break with the closing tournament, but only opening tournament champions Boca Juniors had visibly strengthened their team.

They had signed Alberto Acosta from San Lorenzo — with whom he had been the opening championship's leading scorer — and midfielder Alejandro Mancusso, both internationals.

In the opening games, Boca Juniors beat Deportivo Mandiyu 4-1, with Acosta scoring twice in two minutes in the second half, but earlier the team had been struggling to find open spaces in attack.

River Plate, runners-up in the opening tournament, lost their opener 2-1 at Rosario Central showing up the problem that has been worrying them for some time.

They played well from midfield upwards, but their defence leaks.

During the close season Boca Juniors and River Plate, the traditional rivals, met four times within a month for different trophies in the holiday resort of Mar del Plata.

Their meetings, rough at times, but profitable, finished all square — 2-2, 1-0 for Boca, 1-1 and 2-1 for River.

The last match ended a run of 13 games in which River had not been able to beat Boca.

● Deportivo Mandiyu of Corrientes, who field more foreign players than any other club became the first national championship club to be turned into a limited company. In reality, they always had been backed by one of the large business establishments of that town.

● Gates averaged 8,640 per match in this season's opening championship, the highest in 18 years. The 8,640 do not include members of the home club who get in free.

ERIC **WEIL**

Uruguay

Bankrupt Penarol rely on veterans

PENAROL, who have not won the title since 1986, have Jose Damiani back as president.

He was associated with the glory years, but has returned to a debt-riddled club — $2 million in the red — and yet another new coach, Gregorio Perez (with Gimnasia y Esgrima de La Plata in Argentina last year) who wanted 10 players to strengthen the ailing team.

Penarol, who have made most appearances in the South American club championship, the Libertadores Cup, once again failed to qualify.

The end of season six-team tournament ended with champions Nacional and Bella Vista in the top two qualifying places while Penarol were fourth.

So, with no money to strengthen the team, the club are resorting to an old Uruguayan saying: "Volver a las fuentes" (return to the base) and are bringing back a lot of veterans.

Mario Saralegui, 33, who won the Libertadores Cup with them over 10 years ago and had retired from soccer last year, is one. Jose Perdomo, Pablo Bengoechea and Daniel Vidal are others.

The state of Uruguayan soccer, with leading players continually moving abroad, was clearly revealed in the recent poll to pick the championship's best. The honour went to Panamanian striker Julio Dely Valdez of Nacional.

IN CHILE, the opening championship started with the 16 First Division and 16 Second Division clubs divided into six sections.

Colo Colo, who lost the title last year after three wins in a row, have strengthened their bid this season with the addition of Ecuadorian international striker Eduardo Hurtado and midfielder Jorge Contreras (one of the best in Chile last season).

Winger Patricio Yanez, 32, the idol of their fans, also has returned.

IN BOLIVIA, the professional championship had hardly started when a players' strike stopped it — and national team preparations.

The players want the FA to accept a new set of statutes.

ERIC **WEIL**

Returning . . . Saralegui is back with Penarol.

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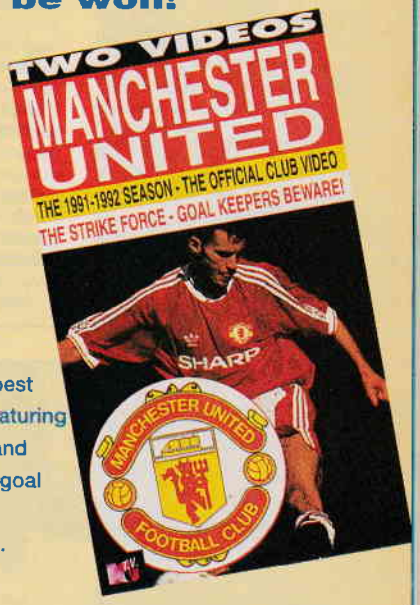

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Who was Manchester United's overall leading scorer last season, with 23 goals?

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Brazil

The sanity inspector

President Veloso shows some sense

HE is not much over five feet tall, wears a peculiarly Brazilian combination of jacket, tie, jeans and suede shoes, is 34, and could be the type of director capable of bringing some sanity to Brazilian football.

Luiz Augusto Veloso became the youngest president in Flamengo's history when he was voted into office by club members following a smear-ridden campaign which could have taught even British politicians a few lessons in how to be nasty to each other.

Veloso took office to find the club in ruins. Players were being sold to pay debts, such as Brazilian international Zinho who went to Palmeiras for $800,000, club employees had not been paid for two months and at one stage there were not enough balls for the players to train.

The club had suffered horribly under former president Marcio Braga, who, among other things, got into a legal battle with the CBF and FIFA. This resulted in an international ban on Flamengo — later revoked after Braga meekly stepped down and a compromise was reached.

"Braga did not pay as much attention to the club as he should have done — he was distracted by other issues," said Veloso, referring to Braga's well-known intention of using football as a springboard for a political career.

Within a month Veloso has settled the debts, paid the employees, brought Renato back to Flamengo — at a price — and brought to an end three years of misery for Brazil's best supported football club.

Veloso said the debts totalled around $1 million. It may not sound much but in Brazilian football it is an awful lot," he added.

What seems like account wizardry was achieved basically by negotiating cash advances for television contracts Flamengo signed for coverage of this year's matches, and other merchandising.

Veloso says his task now is to make Flamengo "think big" and hopes the club can afford to start buying top players, instead of letting them go as has become standard practice.

Players sold by Flamengo in the past three years include Bebeto, Jorginho, Aldair and Leonardo, all of whom now play in Europe.

As far as Veloso is concerned, this is absurd for a club with the potential of Flamengo, who averaged 42,000 attendances in the Brazilian championship last year.

Veloso does not think like the average Brazilian director. He is opposed to the ridiculous idea of having 32 teams in this year's national championship and wants to do away with the discredited Rio de Janeiro championship.

"We pay to play in this competition," he said.

"We will lose money, unless we win the title, and even then it will be close."

Flamengo goalkeeper Gilmar comments: "He could be the sort of person who is capable of changing Brazilian football."

For the time being, however, Veloso has a lot to do. Flamengo certainly did not think big when they lost 2-1 to America in their Libertadores Cup match in Cali.

Junior, at 38, is finally beginning to show signs of his age, giving the ball away so many times that he turned out to be one of America's best players.

Renato has been a worse investment than keeping a current account in Brazilian cruzeiros, and the defence is beyond description.

The team's Brazilian championship win last year was achieved with a lot of luck.

Flamengo squeezed into the last eight in the very last game of the first phase and from then on had the rub of the green.

Had the competition been decided on a league basis they would have finished eighth.

But this is the team which Flamengo fans expect to win the Libertadores Cup — and nothing less will do, even with far more capable opponents such as Sao Paulo, River Plate, Olimpia and America in the way.

Flamengo, World Club champions in 1981, are Brazil's best-supported club and one of the most successful.

They also are the club that everyone else loves to hate, a sort of Brazilian Arsenal.

Like Liverpool or Milan they also seem to get more than their fair share of penalties — especially at home — and last-minute goals.

Veloso's other battle will be off the field, trying to knock some sense into directors of other clubs.

Getting them to accept a proper championship with 20 clubs would do for starters.

Demanding . . . Flamengo's fans expect success.

Playing . . . Sao Paulo's Muller.

A 34-day summer break

SAO PAULO'S players barely had time to put on their flipflops and splash on their suntan oil before the new Brazilian season was under way.

Only 34 days after outclassing Palmeiras in the 1992 Sao Paulo championship final, the whole merry go-round started again for Tele Santana's team as they took on Ponte Preta in the opening match of the 1993 competition.

Most Brazilians were on the beach, but Brazil's football directors had other ideas.

The 1993 season got under way at the height of Brazil's sweltering summer, and so it was not surprising that most fans had other priorities other than watching football. Only 4,000 people turned out to see Rai, Muller, Cerezo and Co., who would attract 50,000 plus crowds every week in almost any country other than football-saturated Brazil.

Santana earned a slightly longer break. His standing is so high with the Sao Paulo board that he was allowed an extra two weeks off, and his assistant stood in for the opening games.

Santana spent part of his time in Italy, where — ironically, given Brazil's reputation for crime — he was held up at knifepoint in Rome, near the Colisseum.

This barely rated a mention in the press, apart from *Estadio de Sao Paulo*, which gave the news a full page. Imagine the headlines if Arrigo Saatchi was held up in Copacabana.

Back in Brazil, Sao Paulo faced a meaningless marathon of matches in the first phase of the Sao Paulo championship. Meaningless because, with six teams qualifying for the semi-final stage from their group and half the teams being no-hopers, Sao Paulo

BRIAN **HOMEWOOD**

The A-Z of A and B and the rest . . .

BRIAN HOMEWOOD'S guide to the first half of the Brazilian season.

***SAO PAULO Championship:* There are 30 teams this year, 16 in group A and 14 in group B. In the first stage, the teams play twice against the other teams in the same group.**

The top six in A and the top two in B qualify for the semi-final stage, where the teams are divided into two groups of four. The winners of each group meet in a two-legged final.

Group A is effectively the First Division with all the strong teams (Sao Paulo, Palmeiras, Corinthians, Bragantino, Santos, Guarani and Portuguesa) but letting two Second Division teams into the semi-finals guarantees votes for Federation president Eduardo Jose Farah at his next election.

There are few changes from last year. Defending champions Sao Paulo have managed to keep the nucleus of their side, including Rai, Muller and Cerezo, so they started as firm favourites.

Palmeiras should provide the biggest challenge. Their latest signing is Edmundo from Vasco, a Romario-like striker with enormous talent and a hot head. In one year he has risen from complete anonymity to become an international.

But Palmeiras have won nothing for 17 years, and the fans' impatience grows with every year that passes.

Rio De Janeiro Championship: follows exactly the same format that scared away fans last year.

The 12 teams, eight of whom have as much chance of winning as a Volkswagen beetle in a Formula One, play each other once in the first phase and once in the second.

The winners of each meet in the final stage, plus the team with the most points over the two combined. If the same team win both phases (as Vasco da Gama did last year), that team take the championship automatically.

Vasco may struggle after selling five of their title-winning team, including Edmundo. Roberto "Dynamite", the 1978 World Cup striker, has finally retired at 38, while Luis Carlos Winck, Brazil's reserve right-back, has rejoined Internacional of Porto Alegre.

Flamengo went into the contest exuding confidence after signing Renato from Cruzeiro and ridding themselves of former president Marcio Braga, whose turbulent reign threw the club into debt.

Former international defender Edinho is back for his second spell as manager at Fluminense, where he will have to repeat his original performance of making the most of a limited bunch of players.

Botafogo, the club Edinho left, were a mystery with a virtually unknown starting line-up.

As for the other eight, few have realistic pretensions to winning the title, though there are always one or two pleasant surprises among the mediocrity.

Bangu usually can be relied upon for some surprises and are loyally followed by a band who often provide more entertainment than the game.

Brazil Cup: supposedly between the winners of last year's state championships (and the runners-up from the biggest states to make up the numbers).

One of Brazil's places in the Libertadores Cup goes to the winners in an attempt to make the clubs take it seriously.

Last year, however, the winners of Brazil's biggest state championships (Sao Paulo and Flamengo) already had guaranteed their places in the Libertadores, and pulled out.

Others: as usual, there are championships in all Brazil's other states, ranging from Rio Grande do Sul (including Gremio and Internacional) to Amazonas, where most players take second jobs to keep themselves financially afloat.

Moving . . . Edmundo has left Vasco, who could now struggle.

Mexico

COMPLICATED AT THE TOP

AMERICA and Universidad Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM), usually among the strongest clubs in the Mexican First Division, battled to a 2-2 draw in their Mexico City derby game of the second round.

UNAM lost a 2-0 lead and America's Zague turned a pass from Hugo Sanchez into the equalizer just before the end.

But . . . with 10 of 8 games to go before the play-offs, neither America or UNAM were in the top two places of their group to qualify automatically for the play-offs. Their best hope at the moment is one of the two wild card entries into the play-offs which go to third-placed teams with the best records.

Heading directly for the play-offs with the best record so far were Necaxa (18-5-5) who topped one of the four groups by six points.

Mexican authorities are investigating financial frauds and possible tax evasion by the Mexican FA's previous committee. Also under inquiry is the contract of former national team coach Cesar Menotti who was reported to have had one contract in dollars and another in Mexican pesos.

Guatemala

CHAMPIONS Municipal just failed to make the top six title play-off when they lost 2-1 to Suchitepequez in the last game of the first stage, won by Aurora.

If Aurora also win the top six play-off they will be automatic champions. Otherwise, they play the winners for the title. Joint top scorers in the first stage were Uruguayan Jose Cardoso (Aurora) and Edwin Westphal (Izabal) with 18 goals.

Guatemala's national team pulled out of the Central American Championship which is, in turn, a qualifying round for the CONCACAF Gold Cup Championship. The reason was financial.

Honduras

SUPER ESTRELLA, are bottom of the league, were forced to stop paying their players wages some time ago and gave them goods instead.

But now they cannot afford even that, most of the players have left and the club is in danger of folding.

ERIC **WEIL**

TABLES

MEXICO — First Division

Group 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Atlante	28	10	9	9	49	41	29
Veracruz	28	11	6	11	34	40	28
Queretaro	28	9	4	15	19	42	22
Santos	28	5	10	13	26	47	20
UA Tamaulipas	28	3	8	17	15	44	14

Group 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Necaxa	28	18	5	5	58	34	41
UA Guadalajara	28	12	11	5	31	20	35
America	27	12	7	8	34	35	31
Puebla	28	11	8	9	39	41	30
Morelia	28	8	9	11	34	44	25

Group 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
UN Leon	28	11	11	6	44	36	33
Cruz Azul	28	11	7	10	48	37	29
Atlas	28	11	7	10	40	36	29
Guadalajara	28	9	8	11	34	37	26
U. Guadalajara	28	8	8	12	28	40	24

Group 4

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Monterrey	27	13	11	3	38	25	37
Leon	28	13	9	6	50	27	35
UNAM	28	12	8	8	51	40	32
Toluca	28	5	11	12	37	40	21
Pachuca	28	6	6	16	26	38	18

GUATEMALA — First Division (1st stage — final)

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Aurora	22	15	5	2	35
Suchitepequez	22	13	5	4	31
Galoass	22	11	5	6	27
Comunicaciones	22	9	8	5	26
Izabal	22	11	3	8	25
Amatitlan	22	8	8	6	24
Municipal	22	8	7	7	23
Escuintla	22	7	5	10	20
Chiquimulilla	22	6	3	13	15
Del Monte	22	4	5	13	14
Juventud Retalteca	22	4	5	13	13
Tipografia Nacional	22	6	0	16	12

Top six qualify for title play-off, bottom six for relegation play-off.

HONDURAS — First Division

After 23 games: 1) Marathon 30 pts; 2) Real Espana, Olimpia 27; 4) Petrotela 26; 5) Motagua, Victoria 22; 7) Platenes 21; 8) Real Maya 18; 9) Vida 12; 10) Super Estrella 5.

EL SALVADOR — First Division

After 25 games: 1) Luis A. Firpo 33; 2) FAS 32; 3) Baygon-ADET 29; 4) Alianza 28; 5) Marte, Cojutepeque 26; 7) Tiburones 21; 8) Aguila, Apaneca 20; 10) Fuerte San Francisco 15.

BRAZIL

Sao Paulo State League

Group A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Santos	7	6	0	1	16	9	12
Bragabtino	7	5	0	2	12	6	10
Palmeiras	6	4	2	0	13	6	10
Guarani	7	4	1	2	11	9	9
Mogi Mirim	7	3	2	2	8	8	8
Rio Branco	7	2	4	1	9	6	8
Portuguesa	7	1	5	1	9	10	7
Sao Paulo	5	2	2	1	8	4	6
Uniao Sao Joao	6	2	2	2	10	11	6
Ponte Preta	7	1	3	3	9	10	5
Juventus	6	2	1	3	8	11	5
XV de Piracicaba	7	1	3	3	6	9	5
Corinthians	7	2	1	4	5	8	5
Marilia	7	1	2	4	8	11	4
Ituano	6	1	1	4	7	11	3
Noroeste	7	1	1	5	4	14	3

Group B

Ferroviaria	6	3	3	0	10	2	9
Novorizontino	6	3	1	2	9	7	7
America	6	3	1	2	5	3	7
Taquaritinge	6	3	1	2	8	10	7
Saocarlense	6	1	5	0	10	5	7
Aracatuba	6	2	2	2	7	6	6
XV de Jau	6	2	2	2	5	5	6
Sao Casteno	6	2	2	2	7	9	6
Sotafogo	5	2	1	2	5	3	5
Inter. Limeria	6	1	3	2	6	5	5
Sao Jose	5	1	3	1	4	6	5
Catanduvense	6	1	2	3	7	11	4
Olimpia	6	0	2	4	4	10	2

VENEZUELA

First Division

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Caracas FC	17	11	3	3	25
Minervan	19	10	5	4	25
Maritimo	17	10	4	3	24
Mineros	17	10	3	4	23
Anzoategui	17	8	6	3	22
Tachira	17	10	2	5	22
Monagas	17	9	3	5	21
Lara	17	7	7	3	21
Estudiantes	17	5	3	6	15
Trujillanos	17	6	7	4	19
Llaneros	18	4	7	7	15
Galicia	18	2	6	10	10
Univ. de los Andes	17	1	8	8	10
Zamora	17	2	4	11	8
Italia	17	3	2	12	8
Portuguesa	17	0	4	13	4

URUGUAY — "Liguilla"

(Libertadores Cup qualifying tournament)

Final (5 games): 1) Nacional 9 pts; 2) Bella Vista 7; 3) Danubio 6; 4) Penarol 5; 5) Defensor Sporting 3; 6) River Plate 0.

Top two qualify for Libertadores Cup, 3rd and 4th for CONMEBOL Cup.

DIARY

20 JANUARY WEDNESDAY

PORTUGAL: Sporting president Cintra Sousa says he hopes to sign Paulo Futre, who is being released reluctantly by Atletico Madrid.

UNITED STATES: Officials of CONCACAF say it is highly unlikely that San Francisco Blackhawks could obtain approval for their wish to compete in the Mexican championship.

21 JANUARY THURSDAY

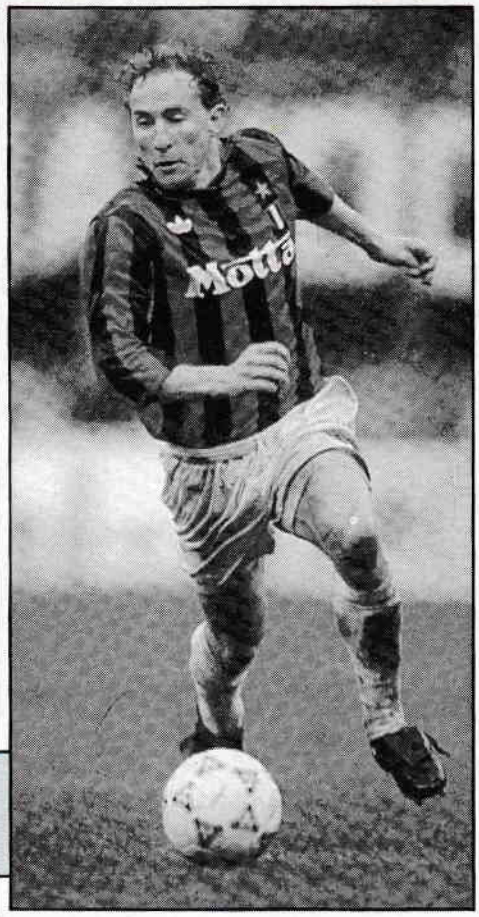
ITALY: Federation sources suggest Italy may quit Florence as a national team venue because of a sustained chorus of jeers during the match against Mexico.

PORTUGAL: National boss Carlos Queiros drops Futre from his squad for the World Cup tie against Malta because of the competing pressures on him of his Atletico Madrid walk-out.

RUSSIA: CSKA are granted their request to be allowed to play their remaining two Champions League home ties in the Olympic stadium in Berlin, rather than in Leverkusen.

URUGUAY: Nacional beat Penarol 3-1 to clinch their place in the forthcoming South American Club Cup.

Jean-Pierre Papin . . .
for knuckling down with real physical courage — and then a string of goals — to life at Milan.



22 JANUARY FRIDAY

ACTION: PASS of Iran beat Al Shabab of Saudi Arabia 1-0 in the Asian Champions' Cup final. Al Wasl of the UAE beat Yomiuri of Japan 4-3 in the third place match . . . Australia beat South Korea 2-0 in an Under-21 friendly in Sydney.

GERMANY: Borussia Dortmund complete the signing of Mathias Sammer from Inter, for £2m. Inter are relieved at losing "only" £1million on the deal, six months after buying Sammer from Stuttgart . . . Yugoslav sweeper Slobadan Dubajic is linked with Real Madrid.

PORTUGAL: Benfica "overtake" Sporting and reach agreement on personal terms with Paulo Futre for a three-year contract.

SPAIN: Atletico Madrid, seeking a replacement for Futre, are told by Sao Paulo that winger Muller will not be available until at least June . . . Atletico Madrid protest at the federation's decision to reverse the home and away dates for their Cup tie with Barcelona.

UKRAINE: Oleg Salenko, having lost his chance of a transfer to England, is offered a loan spell with Logrones for the rest of the Spanish season.

23 JANUARY SATURDAY

ACTION: Malta lose 2-0 at home to Portugal in a European Under-21 tie . . . Switzerland beat Japan 5-3 on penalties after a 1-1 draw in the semi-finals of the Carlsberg Challenge in Hong Kong. In the other semi-final Hong Kong beat Denmark Under-21 5-0 . . . Rudi Voller gets away with a "Hand of God" goal as Marseille beat Lyon 2-1 . . . Spanish league-leaders La Coruna are held 1-1 away to Rayo Vallecano in Madrid.

ITALY: Lazio leave Paul Gascoigne out of the team to face Juventus.

PORTUGAL: Benfica sources say the Futre fee is £4million. Sporting announce that they are to "severe diplomatic relations" with Benfica.

SWITZERLAND: Wettingen go bust, £1.7million in the red.

24 JANUARY SUNDAY

ACTION: Portugal win 1-0 away to Malta in a World Cup qualifier . . . Brugge lose their second successive league match, this time 1-0 away to Standard . . . Bergkamp stars but does not score as Ajax beat SVV/Dordrecht 4-1 . . . Inter keep up their pursuit of Milan in Italy, winning 2-1 away to Torino. Milan beat Genoa 1-0 thanks to a second-half penalty conversion from Dejan Savicevic. Roma win 2-1 away to Udinese, keeping Vujadin Boskov in his job for at least another week. Lazio draw 1-1 with Juventus after league top-scorer Giuseppe Signori misses a penalty. Hooligan trouble leads to six arrests before the Second Division game between Venezia and Bologna . . . Real Madrid easily beat Tenerife 3-0 while Barcelona are held 2-2 at Real Sociedad.

SPAIN: Josep Guardiola, injured against Real Sociedad, pulls out of Spain's squad against Mexico. Real Madrid's Hierro is named as replacement — but then he reports injured as well.

25 JANUARY MONDAY

BULGARIA: The federation reaches agreement with the Spanish league that Bulgarian players needed for internationals will be allowed, after all, to join the national squad on Mondays after playing for their Spanish clubs on the weekends preceding internationals.

FRANCE: Marseille president Bernard Tapie responds angrily to speculation about Papin moving to Paris Saint-Germain. Tapie says he has a gentleman's agreement with Milan president Silvio Berlusconi that Papin can not return to any other French club.

ITALY: Paul Gascoigne's agents deny reports that he has been fined £9,000 by Lazio for belching into a microphone belonging to a reporter from state TV channel *RAI*, after being asked what he thought of being dropped from the team against Juventus.

DENMARK: Aarhus' sale of Norwegian defender Jan Halvorson to Portsmouth is put on ice for six months while Norway await admission to the European Community. Halvorson would not otherwise qualify for a work permit.

26 JANUARY TUESDAY

ACTION: Switzerland beat Hong Kong 3-2 in the final of the Carlsberg Challenge in Hong Kong. Denmark Under-21 beat Japan 2-1 in the third place match. . . . Australia and South Korea draw 0-0 in an Under-21 friendly in Adelaide . . . a Rosario XI draw 0-0 with Romania . . . Romania B draw 3-3 with North Korea in the Nehru Cup in Calcutta.

ENGLAND: Blackburn, poised to return to the top of the Premier League, after thrashed 5-2 at home by Coventry.

GREECE: Olympiakos dismiss Ukrainian coach Oleg Blokhin after the title-chasers collected only one point in their last two league games. New boss is former national manager Andonis Georgiadis.

HOLLAND: Rotterdam city officials ask the KNVB to switch the World Cup tie against Turkey next month to an afternoon kick off to try to prevent crowd trouble.

REP. OF IRELAND: Tottenham teenager Andy Turner opts for the Irish Republic rather than England and is named in Jack Charlton's squad for a training session ahead of the February 17 friendly with Wales.

TANZANIA: Tanzania become the latest nation to withdraw from the World Cup qualifiers.

27 JANUARY WEDNESDAY

ACTION: Spain hit back with a second-half Toni penalty to draw 1-1 with Mexico in Las Palmas.

ARGENTINA: Independiente walk off, and goalkeeper Luis Islas is sent off, in a bad-tempered Copa De Oro tie against Boca Juniors in Mar del Plata.

BELGIUM: FIFA secretary general Sepp Blatter, interviewed in a Belgian newspaper, says that kick-ins could well replace throw-ins after the 1994 World Cup finals.

CHINA: For the first time, says the federation, Chinese teams can sign one or two foreign players each.

ENGLAND: Leeds expect a work permit imminently to speed the signing of Norwegian forward Frank Strandli . . . Bermuda World Cup forward Kyle Lightbourne agrees a one-year extension with Third Division Scarborough.

FRANCE: Bordeaux beat Toulouse 2-0 in the match replayed because of a referee's blunder first time around.

HOLLAND: Bergkamp scores twice as Ajax beat Vitesse 4-0.

ITALY: Juventus beat Italian Cup-holders Parma 2-1, Milan draw 0-0 with Inter, and Napoli held 0-0 by Roma in quarter-final, first leg Cup ties . . . MP Andrea Borri calls for tougher measures against hooligans in the wake of further violence by Napoli followers before the game against Parma at the weekend.

MEXICO: Pele says in Mexico City that not only will the 1994 World Cup finals be a success, so will the US team.

PORTUGAL: Benfica beat Porto 2-0 in a Cup sixth-round replay. They now face Second Division Amadora on February 3.

SWITZERLAND: Olympic president Juan Antonio Samaranch says the IOC is in favour of admitting women's soccer to the 1996 Games in Atlanta. He claims to

have agreed, in talks with FIFA president Joao Havelange, that the men's event will feature Under-23 teams who are allowed to include three overage players each. But, Samaranch points out, this must be confirmed by FIFA.

28 JANUARY THURSDAY

ACTION: Italy beat Russia 3-0 in a military international in Caserta.

HOLLAND: Adri Van Tiggelen extends his contract with PSV Eindhoven for one more season. PSV, meanwhile, also take Romanian international left-back Dorin Munteanu on trial.

HUNGARY: Ujpest sell Sandor Bacsi, one-time potential golden boy, to Vasas.

ITALY: Tomas Skuhravy considers challenging the legality of his Genoa contract after interest from other clubs . . . Gian Mauro Borsano quits as Torino president.

SPAIN: Two days before Real Madrid face Barcelona, Luis Milla, now of Madrid and formerly of Barcelona, claims a Barcelona player phoned him before the game against Tenerife at the end of last season, offering money for Madrid to lose.

TURKEY: Gaziantep dismiss Yilmaz Godkel, who was Turkey's Coach of the Year in 1992.

UKRAINE: Kiev players consider going on strike in support of dismissed general manager Oshemkov.

29 JANUARY FRIDAY

GREECE: Andonis Georgiadis quits as Olympiakos coach just two days after succeeding Oleg Blokhin. He quits after being jeered by fans at training. Olympiakos appoint Ljubomir Petrovic, just sacked by PAOK (and where Blokhin is new coach).

HOLLAND: Herbert Neumann extends his coaching contract with Vitesse Arnhem.

ITALY: Federation president Antonio Matarrese hints that a new set of rules may be introduced regarding foreign players, with each club permitted two non-EC players and an unlimited number of EC players, with three still on the pitch but perhaps one allowed on the bench . . . Roberto Goveani takes over as new president of Torino, at 35 the youngest in Serie A.

PORTUGAL: Paulo Futre (below) is warned that, now he is back in Portugal, he may have to comply with his long-delayed national service.

SPAIN: Luis Milla is urged to "name names" over his bribery claims against Barcelona.

WHAT'S ON

MARCH

SUNDAY, MARCH 21
Friendly: Leeds United v Grampus 8.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23
International: El Salvador v United States.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24
World Cup qualifiers, Group 1: Italy v Malta. **Group 2:** Holland v San Marino. **International:** Scotland v Germany (Glasgow).

THURSDAY, MARCH 25
International: Honduras v United States.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27
World Cup qualifier, Group 6: Austria v France. **Anglo-Italian Cup, final:** Cremonese v Derby County (Wembley).

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31
World Cup qualifiers, Group 1: Switzerland v Portugal. **Group 2:** Turkey v England. **Group 3:** Denmark v Spain, Rep. of Ireland v Northern Ireland. **Group 4:** Belgium v Wales. **Group 5:** Hungary v Greece.

APRIL

SUNDAY, APRIL 4
World Cup qualifiers, CONCACAF final rnd: Honduras v Canada, El Salvador v Mexico.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7
Champions' Cup group matches, 5th series. Cup-winners' Cup & UEFA Cup semi-finals, 1st leg.

THURSDAY, APRIL 8
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group F: Japan v Thailand, Sri Lanka v UAE.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group C: Qatar v Indonesia, North Korea v Vietnam.

SUNDAY, APRIL 11
World Cup qualifiers, CONCACAF final rnd: Mexico v Honduras, Canada v El Salvador. **Asia Group C:** North Korea v Singapore, Qatar v Vietnam. **Group F:** Japan v Bangladesh, Thailand v Sri Lanka.

TUESDAY, APRIL 13
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group C: North Korea v Indonesia, Vietnam v Singapore. **Group F:** Sri Lanka v Bangladesh, UAE v Thailand.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14
World Cup qualifiers, Group 1: Italy v Estonia. **Group 3:** Denmark v Latvia, Lithuania v Albania. **Group 4:** Romania v Cyprus. **Group 5:** Luxembourg v Russia. **Group 6:** Austria v Bulgaria.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group F: Japan v Sri Lanka, UAE v Bangladesh.

FRIDAY, APRIL 16
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group C: Qatar v Singapore, Vietnam v Indonesia.

SATURDAY, APRIL 17
World Cup qualifier, Europe Group 1: Malta v Switzerland. **International:** United States v Iceland (Costa Mesa).

SUNDAY, APRIL 18
World Cup qualifiers, CONCACAF final rnd: Canada v Honduras, Mexico v El Salvador. **Asia Group F:** Japan v UAE, Thailand v Bangladesh.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21
Champions' Cup group matches, 6th (final) series. Cup-winners' Cup & UEFA Cup semi-finals, 2nd leg.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group C: Indonesia v Qatar, Vietnam v North Korea.

SUNDAY, APRIL 25
World Cup qualifier, Europe Group 4: Cyprus v Faroe Islands. **CONCACAF final rnd:** Mexico v Canada, Honduras v El Salvador.

MONDAY, APRIL 26
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group C: Singapore v North Korea, Vietnam v Qatar.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28
World Cup qualifiers, Europe Group 1: Portugal v Scotland. **Group 2:** England v Holland, Norway v Turkey, Poland v San Marino. **Group 3:** Rep. of Ireland v Denmark, Spain v Northern Ireland. **Group 4:** Czechoslovakia v Wales. **Group 5:** Russia v Hungary. **Group 6:** France v Sweden, Bulgaria v Finland. **Asia Group C:** Indonesia v North Korea, Singapore v Vietnam. **Group F:** Thailand v Japan, UAE v Sri Lanka.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30
World Cup qualifiers, Asia Group C: Singapore v Qatar, Indonesia v Vietnam. **Group F:** Bangladesh v Japan, Thailand v UAE.

SWITZERLAND: UEFA order Club Brugge to play their next Champions League tie, against Rangers, behind closed doors because of crowd trouble at the Marseille v Brugge tie. Rangers protest this will penalise 2,500 of their own fans who have already paid to make the trip. Spain's Zaragoza are handed a two-game home ban.

30 JANUARY SATURDAY

ACTION: The United States draw 2-2 with a weakened Denmark.

PORTUGAL: It is revealed that Benfica raised the cash to buy Futre thanks to an instant three-year television deal with state-owned *RTP*, whose president is a former member of Benfica's finance committee. Sporting and Porto protest at a misuse of public funds.

ITALY: Tomas Brolin agrees a new three-year deal with Parma.

SPAIN: Real Madrid beat Barcelona 2-1 and John Cruyff suggests referee Diaz Vega should "go back to refereeing kids games."

31 JANUARY SUNDAY

ACTION: World Cup action in Africa as Zimbabwe beat Angola 2-1, Egypt beat Togo 3-0 and Senegal thrash Mozambique 6-1 . . . Milan just about maintain their unbeaten record but Foggia miss a penalty in a 2-2 draw . . . in Portugal, Sporting lose 1-0 at home to Salgueiros, thus ending a 14-game unbeaten run . . . Moscow Spartak win the CIS Champions' Cup, beating Minsk 8-0 in the final in Moscow.

CONTINUED OVER

1 FEBRUARY MONDAY

ITALY: Milan agree a new two-year deal with their penalty-stopping goalkeeper, Sebastiano Rossi.

PORTUGAL: Marco Van Basten receives his award as FIFA Footballer of the Year at a world football gala in Estoril, near Lisbon.

SPAIN: Atletico Madrid dismiss Luis Aragones as coach, for the second time in his career.

SWITZERLAND: Record Swiss international Heinz Hermann ends his contract with Grasshopper after falling out with the club management.

2 FEBRUARY TUESDAY

GREECE: Oleg Blokhin, just sacked by Olympiakos, is surprise coaching appointment by PAOK, who have just dismissed Ljobumir Petrovic. Blokhin is replaced at Olympiakos by Andonis Georgiadis.

ISRAEL: Avi Cohen is dropped by Israel and replaced as captain.

PORTUGAL: The government sacks the board of the state television company, RTP, after protests about its involvement in Benfica's swoop to buy Paulo Futre.

Zimbabwe . . . *for demonstrating through their World Cup qualifying campaign the continuing depth of talent in AfricaZ.*

3 FEBRUARY WEDNESDAY

ACTION: Denmark beat El Salvador 2-0 in Los Angeles, Peru lose 2-0 at home to Romania in Lima.

GERMANY: Eintracht Frankfurt agree to appoint Klaus Toppmoller as new coach at the season's end in succession to Dragoslav Stepanovic.

GREECE: Georgiadis quits as Olympiakos coach after being pelted with missiles and insulted by fans at training.

ITALY: Fiorentina's Stefan Effenberg says he is not interested in a mooted transfer to Juventus. Juventus themselves deny reports of an approach to River Plate coach Daniel Passarella.

4 FEBRUARY THURSDAY

ENGLAND: Arsenal buy back their former centre back, Martin Keown, from Everton for £2million.

ROMANIA: The Sports Ministry announces a formal state funeral for international defender Michael Klein, who died while training with his German club, Bayer Uerdingen.

5 FEBRUARY FRIDAY

HOLLAND: Ajax buy back striker Ronald De Boer from Twente Enschede, a move seen as a clear indication that a decision is shortly to be revealed on the departure of Dennis Bergkamp.

ITALY: Fiorentina declare a £60,000 bonus per man if they qualify for next season's UEFA Cup.

6 FEBRUARY SATURDAY

ACTION: The United States draw 1-1 with Romania in Santa Barbara . . . South Korea are held 2-2 by FC Aarau of Switzerland on the second day of the Merdeka tournament in Kuala Lumpur . . . Voller and Sauzee each score twice as Marseille thrash Nimes 6-1 to move within a point of French leaders Monaco . . . La Coruna maintain their Spanish leadership by defeating Sevilla 2-0. It could have been more but Bebeto misses a penalty.

ARGENTINA: Three River Plate fans alleged to have been the men who attacked coach Daniel Passarella and the club's physio are arrested in Buenos Aires.

ITALY: Roma president Ciarrapico denies having been given an ultimatum over the club's cash crisis by the Italian federation. He says: "If they want to see more money then we'll put it into the club. There is no problem."

URUGUAY: Penarol sign former international winger Pablo Bengoechea.

7 FEBRUARY SUNDAY

ACTION: Another South Korean selection lose 2-1 to Thailand B in the opening game of the King's Cup in Bangkok . . . Thailand's seniors draw 1-1 with Malaysia in the Merdeka Cup . . . River Plate lose 1-0 at home to Newell's Old Boys in the Libertadores Cup . . . in the Sao Paulo championship in Brazil, Sao Paulo FC beat derby rivals Corinthians 3-0 in a dramatic match which includes the expulsion of Corinthians goalkeeper Ronaldo then a fan running off with the ball after Rai places it for a penalty . . . Bergkamp scores two as Ajax beat Sparta 6-0. In hooligan trouble, 200 fans clash at Assen railway station before the game between Groningen and Twente . . . Atalanta maintain their progress in Italy by defeating Juventus 2-1. Leaders Milan beat bottom club Pescara 4-0 with two goals from Papin . . . in Spain Barcelona are surprisingly held 1-1 at home by Tenerife but Real Madrid win 2-1 in Burgos. Atletico Madrid end an eight-game run without a win by defeating Espanol 2-1 under caretaker coach Ovejero.

HOLLAND: Ajax striker Dennis Bergkamp denies Italian reports that he has agreed a transfer to Juventus.

8 FEBRUARY MONDAY

ACTION: Aarau carry on winning in the Merdeka tournament, this time defeating Ghana 2-1.

BELGIUM: Michael Goossens, 19, of Standard is called up for the World Cup squad against Cyprus.

BRAZIL: Eleven exiles are named in the national squad to play Argentina in the AFA centenary match in Buenos Aires . . . Pele backs the proposal for an experiment with kick-ins instead of throw-ins.

ITALY: Five photographers are arrested by police after scuffling in pursuit of pictures of Paul Gascoigne at a Rome restaurant.

9 FEBRUARY TUESDAY

ACTION: Portugal beat Norway 1-0 in an under-21 friendly . . . CSKA Sofia and Malaysia qualify for the semi-finals of the Merdeka Cup in Kuala Lumpur . . . the United States beat FC Zurich 2-1 in Mission Viejo.

ENGLAND: The FA seals a £15million kit deal which will also offer players bonuses for World Cup progress.

FRANCE: Gerard Houllier names four uncapped players — Martins, Loko, Le Guen and Lama — in his World Cup squad for Israel. Houllier tells Lama he is now his No. 1 goalkeeper, ahead of Bruno Martini.

ITALY: Three players and Napoli coach Ottavio Bianchi are sent off as Roma beat Napoli 2-0 to qualify for the semi-finals of the Italian Cup.

SAN MARINO: Two professionals, Massimo Bonini (Bologna) and Marco Mazza (Cerveteri) are included in the World Cup squad to face England at Wembley.

SPAIN: Johan Cruyff says he will retire in two years, at the end of his new Barcelona contract extension.

10 FEBRUARY WEDNESDAY

ACTION: Werder Bremen draw 1-1 with Barcelona in the European Super Cup first leg thanks to a late goal from veteran Klaus Allofs . . . Mexico beat Romania 2-0 in Monterrey . . . Portugal draw 1-1 with Norway in a friendly . . . FC Aarau and South Korea complete the semi-final line-up in the Merdeka Cup.

FRANCE: Marseille win 3-1 at Le Havre to draw level on points with Monaco at the top of the table. Monaco are held goalless at home by Bordeaux.

GREECE: Panathinaikos (5-2 v OFI) and Olympiakos (3-0 v Doxa) both have easy wins in the Cup quarter-final first legs.

HOLLAND: Dennis Bergkamp is on target with his 17th goal of the season as Ajax win 4-1 away to Fortuna Sittard, whose consolation goal is scored by Canadian Randy Samuel.

ITALY: Papin strikes again — with another two goals as Milan win 3-0 "away" to Inter in their Cup quarter-final return. Holders Parma are eliminated after being held 1-1 at home by Juventus. Lazio are beaten 3-2 by Torino and eliminated after league top-scorer Signori misses a penalty. Lazio also have defender Bacci sent off and suffer an own goal by Luzardi.

SCOTLAND: Dundee United's Argentine Victor Ferreyra returns home to Buenos Aires.

SPAIN: Atletico Madrid sign Argentine Omar Pastoriza as new coach.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter says preliminary rounds will be necessary in Europe for the next World Cup to weed out the minnows who distort serious competition and to reduce pressure on already crowded fixture lists.

11 FEBRUARY THURSDAY

SCOTLAND: Gordon Durie suffers a groin injury and pulls out of Scotland's World Cup squad against Malta.

SWITZERLAND: UEFA's appeals committee upholds Brugge's appeal against the "closed door" punishment for crowd trouble at the Champions League match in Marseille. A £120,000 fine is substituted instead.

12 FEBRUARY FRIDAY

JAPAN: Hitachi of Tokyo appoint Werner Olk, former Bayern Munich defender and Morocco national manager, as new coach.

13 FEBRUARY SATURDAY

ACTION: The United States lose 1-0 to Russia in Orlando. The reserve referee is a woman, Janet Wright . . . four players are sent off as Barcelona are held 1-1 at home by Atletico Madrid.

TURKEY: Fenerbahce are reported to be negotiating with Horst Koppel as successor to Josef Venglos who is tipped to become Slovakia's first national coach at the season's end.

14 FEBRUARY SUNDAY

ACTION: Milan goalkeeper Sebastiano Rossi preserves the 54-game unbeaten run with yet another penalty save in the 1-1 draw against Atalanta.

ITALY: Azeglio Vicini, Italy's former national manager, criticises successor Arrigo Sacchi for using too many players and not concentrating on a settled squad of 15 to 18.

15 FEBRUARY MONDAY

ENGLAND: Chelsea dismiss Ian Porterfield as manager and appoint former Cup-winning defender David Webb to the end of the season.

HOLLAND: Dennis Bergkamp springs the season's major transfer surprise by announcing his end-of-season departure not to Milan,. Barcelona or Juventus but to Internazionale. Ajax will receive £12million for the joint sale of Bergkamp and midfield partner Wim Jonk.

16 FEBRUARY TUESDAY

ACTION: Shades of things to come as England beat San Marino 6-0 in the European under-21s; Scotland beat Malta 3-0 at Tannadice . . . England's World Youth Cup hopefuls lose 1-0 to Denmark at Southampton.

17 FEBRUARY WEDNESDAY

ACTION: World Cup walkovers as England beat San Marino 6-0, France win 4-0 in Israel and Scotland defeat Malta 3-0 . . . Northern Ireland win 2-1 in Albania and Greece win 2-0 at home to Luxembourg . . . the Irish Republic beat Wales 2-1 in a Tolka Park friendly; Russia beat El Salvador 2-1 in Los Angeles.

HOLLAND: PSV are surprisingly beaten 2-1 by Heerenveen in a Cup quarter-final.

SPAIN: Real Madrid beat Mallorca 3-0 to recover a 3-2 aggregate success in the Spanish Cup; Barcelona thrash Atletico Madrid 6-0 but Atletico fielded their reserves after having already crashed 5-0 at home in the first leg.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? . . .

Lucien Muller, former France, Real Madrid and Reims midfielder now living in retirement in Barcelona.

18 FEBRUARY THURSDAY

SWITZERLAND: FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter says detailed proposals have been placed before the International Olympic Committee concerning the admission of women's football to the 1996 Atlanta Games.

19 FEBRUARY FRIDAY

ENGLAND: The FA Premier League secures a £12million four-season title sponsorship with brewers Bass — the biggest deal of its kind in the history of British sport. From next season the competition will be known as the FA Carling Premier League.

JAPAN: Gary Lineker arrives in Japan at the start of his contract with Grampus Eight.

OBITUARY

BOBBY MOORE, England's World Cup-winning captain in 1966, aged 51. *See tribute on Pages 34-35.*

EMILIO RECOBA, who had been the last surviving member of Uruguay's 1930 World Cup-winning squad (though he did not get a game), aged 82.

ALEXANDER TIRNANIC, former Yugoslav forward then team manager, aged 81.

JACK FROGGATT, former England outside left and member of Portsmouth's 1949 and 1950 League championship sides, aged 71.

BILL SEDDON, former Arsenal centre-half in the late 1920s and early 1930s, aged 91.

FELIX RUIZ, Real Madrid midfielder of the 1960s whose career was ended early by injuries, aged 52.

NORTHERN IRELAND: The Irish FA complains to FIFA about logistics and conditions in Albania.

20 FEBRUARY SATURDAY

ACTION: The German Bundesliga reopens after the winter break with Mathias Sammer scoring a debut winner for Borussia Dortmund against Bochum.

UNITED STATES: Eric Wynalda, of Saarbrucken, is announced as US Player of the Year at a gala in Chicago. Runners-up are Marcelo Balboa and Tab Ramos.

21 FEBRUARY SUNDAY

ACTION: The United States draw 0-0 with Russia (their last tour game) in Palo Alto . . . Albania's weekend league programme is wiped out by a referees' strike . . . halfway champions Boca Juniors open Argentina's Clausura tournament with a 4-1 win over Deportivo Mandiyu . . . Marseille go top in France for the first time this season after a 2-0 win over Lens . . . AEK and Panathinaikos keep on winning to stay joint top in Greece . . . Atletico Madrid win 2-0 at home to Cadiz for new coach Pastoriza; Stoichkov misses a penalty in Barelona's 1-0 defeat of Burgos; La Coruna thrash Real Sociedad 5-1 to stay clear at the top.

DENMARK: The national squad prepares to fly off to Buenos Aires without Flemming Povlsen, who injured a knee the previous day playing in Germany for Borussia Dortmund.

ITALY: Juventus, having missed out on Bergkamp, are now spying out Marseille's Franck Sauzée.

WORLDWIDE QUIZ

1. Name the South American club based at Capwell Stadium.

2. Which club once won the Italian championship by a margin of 16 points?

3. Name the only Welsh goalkeeper, other than Neville Southall, to gain 50 international caps.

4. Sahel, Sfax and Sportif Cheminots are clubs in which African country?

5. Who is the oldest player to take part in an FA Cup Final at Wembley, and how old was he at the time?

6. Which Liverpool player scored a hat-trick when they won the European Super Cup?

7. Who is Spain's leading scorer in full internationals?

8. Name the player who scored four goals for Scotland on November 7 in one year and did so again on November 7 in the following year.

9. Everton won the League Championship in 1950, 1952 and 1976 — true or false?

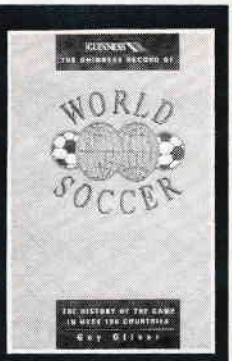
10. Stanley Rous (later Sir Stanley and president of FIFA) once refereed an FA Cup Final. which one?

March answers:

1 ..... Shay Brennan (debut v Sheffield Wednesday in United's first match after Munich).
2 ..... Luxembourg.
3 ..... Peter McParland (Aston Villa, 1957 and 1971).
4 ..... Parma.
5 ..... Quigley (Forest), Quinn (Sheff Wed) and Quixall (Man United).
6 ..... Limassol, Cyprus.
7 ..... Jimmy Neighbour (Spurs 1971, West Ham 1981).
8 ..... They are all Finns.
9 ..... Hungary, against England, South Korea and West Germany.
10 ... Ronnie Starling (Hull, Newcastle, Sheffield Wednesday and Aston Villa).

GUINNESS PUBLISHING

WIN



THE Guinness Record of World Soccer!

This 870-page book is packed with statistics and information about the world game, and normally sells for £19.95.

This month, and every month, the winner of our quiz will receive a copy of this excellent reference work by Guy Oliver.

THE mystery winner of the February quiz turns out to be Mr A. P. Parlett of Cheam, who omitted his name and address from his original entry.

Don't forget those "vital statistics" with your entry for this month's test, to the usual address, on a postcard please, by April 10.

The winner of the March quiz is Brian Meddings of Nottingham.

The money rolls in

And the problems follow

CLINK, CLINK! The beautiful music for the World Cup '94 organisers is the sound of money pouring in.

Ticket sales have bounded way above all expectations. Since the first sales in February, orders have dumped well over $10 million into the World Cup coffers, enabling the organisers to start repayments on the $20 million Swiss bank loan that has been their lifeline up to now.

This is the first step in the sales plan, with tickets so far sold only to members of the "soccer family." The early-bird offer was made by distribution of a special coded brochure, featuring discounted prices, to registered players, referees, administrators, etc.

Full-price sale to the general public is scheduled to begin in June.

Unfortunately, the money has brought a headache with it. The organisers now admit that they underestimated the response they would get. In each venue, they had set aside approximately 30 per cent of the tickets for the soccer family, with the remainder being held back for the public sale.

The soccer family members were told that they had until March 31 to return their brochures, that it was not a first-come first-served deal, and that everyone who replied by the deadline would get tickets.

The orders poured in until, early in March, it was clear that in certain venues — New York, Washington and Chicago — the 30 per cent allotment was going to be exhausted well before the 31st.

An alarm call was sent out, moving the deadline up to March 15. Which exposed another problem. The brochures had been sent by third-class bulk mail, and the US postal service had been wildly erratic in delivering them.

In some parts of the country, the brochures had not arrived by the 15th, and the problem remains unsolved.

The allocation has been increased a little in the three affected venues (which may shortly be joined by a fourth, Boston, where sales are going briskly), but the biggest problem is with the most expensive tickets.

Here the organisers seem afraid to release more seats, for fear of not being able to meet the requirements of FIFA and other VIP bodies.

An unfortunate situation, and one that has resulted from World Cup '94's good intentions. They wanted to serve the soccer community first, but how could they miscalculate the response so badly?

Scott LeTellier (right), World Cup '94's managing director, says: "The sales outdid our best projections.

"The early-bird offer allowed each purchaser to buy 50 tickets. Looking back, we should have set a lower figure on the number of tickets that any one person could obtain. There is some evidence that in New York and Chicago tickets have been bought by people who are sending them to Italy and Germany. In those two venues, the average number of tickets bought per order was about 4.3, higher than the average for all nine venues, which was about 3.8."

To take care of overseas sales in a more conventional way, World Cup '94 announced the formation of World Cup Travel Services.

"Unique," claims LeTellier. "It will not function as a tour packager, but will carefully select tour operators around the world, supply them with tickets, and allow them to construct their own packages."

A total of 15% of all World Cup tickets will be distributed in this way when overseas sales begin in the summer. In another break with the past, the tour operators will be chosen on a non-exclusive basis.

The intention is that the resulting competition will lead to lower prices, and do away with some of the past abuses that have resulted from one company having a monopoly.

Overseas buyers will be able to buy tickets as part of a package from an approved tour operator, or they will be able to get them direct from their national association. The Football Association, for instance — no doubt with security very much in mind — is keen to have as much control as possible over ticket sales in England.

Special "team-series" plans will be available, under which fans can buy a strip of three tickets to the first-round games of their team (or four, if they're confident their team will make it to the next round). "Unique", said LeTellier again, and then repeated the word to describe the team-series that will be made available later from quarter-finals to the final

Big business: the US Department of Commerce is estimating that as many as one million visitors will come to the US for the World Cup. On a recent visit to England, Germany, Belgium and Holland, Sunil Gulati — World Cup '94's chief international officer — found enormous interest in ticket buying.

"The first reaction was always that the prices are too high," he said.

"Then, after discussions about the organisation, and after we'd reported on how sales were going in the US, it was `How can we get more tickets?'"

Gulati's findings also confirmed the notion that World Cup '94 will pull in not only soccer fans, but also those who want to do some sightseeing. The venues that excited the most interest were Orlando, San Francisco, and Los Angeles.

PAUL **GARDNER**

Mexicans aim to maintain success

GUATEMALA CITY was the venue for the draw to decide who plays who in the 1993 American Airlines Cup.

CONCACAF's equivalent of the Libertadores Cup involves clubs from nine countries and will run from March until November.

The competition has been split into two regions — Caribbean and North/Central — and has a very complicated process of elimination.

In the Caribbean Region three rounds of play, divided into north and south geographic regions, will produce two finalists, who will then play-off for the right to join three teams from the other section in the overall semi-finals.

In the North and Central Region the teams have been divided into three groups of six, playing three rounds, to produce the three overall semi-finalists.

Six teams — Alajuela (Costa Rica), Leon (Mexico), Luis Angel Firpo (El Salvador), Montagua (Honduras), Municipal (Guatemala) and an undetermined team from the United States — have received first-round byes.

Four previous winners — Alianza (El Salvador), Saprissa (Costa Rica), Municipal (Guatemala) and Puebla (Mexico) — are among the contenders.

Mexican clubs have, not surprisingly, dominated the tournament, winning the trophy 14 times in all, five in the last six years.

Puebla, winners in 1991, are among the favourites this time but will face a difficult challenge in the second round against Saprissa, runners-up in the Costa Rican championship.

Cashing up in Dallas

DALLAS City Council are not happy. Part of the deal bringing the World Cup to the city was that they would pump about $14 million of public funds into renovating the Cotton Bowl and the surrounding site.

The other part of the deal was that the World Cup Host Committee would raise $2 million through a fund-raising programme.

The PR firm involved says: "We'd love to be out there selling sponsorship packages, but the heart of those packages would be a deal making specified numbers of tickets available to the sponsors.

"We can't do it, because World Cup '94 won't tell us how many tickets are available.

"Anyway, the supply of sponsors is not unlimited."

There are now international sponsors and regional sponsors, controlled by World Cup '94.

By the time things get down to the local level, to the sort of packages that can be sold by the Dallas Host Committee, potential sponsors have been greatly thinned out.

Ultimately, of course, Dallas is not expected to have any great problems, because of the siting of the International Broadcasting Centre in the city.

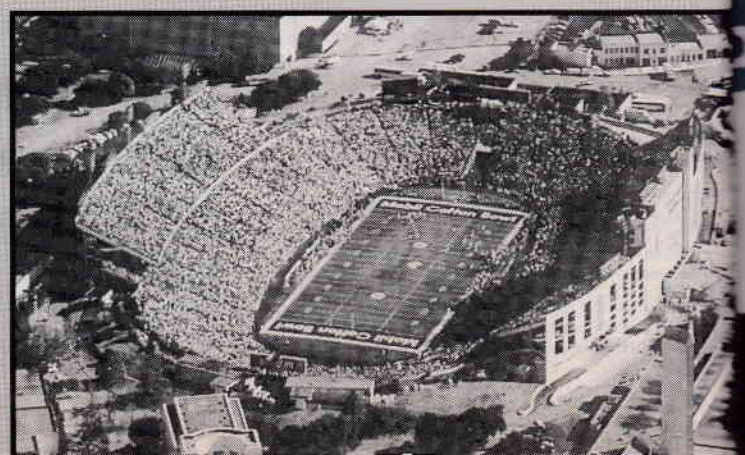
It is estimated that between 3,000 and 4,000 people will come to Dallas to staff this, staying an average of seven weeks.

For the local hotels, this adds up to around 200,000 room nights, even without the fans.

Which means a lot of income for the city in sales and hotel room taxes.

PAUL **GARDNER**

Problems . . . the Cotton Bowl in Dallas (below) needs $16 million worth of renovations, to be raised by the World Cup Host Committee.



AMERICAN AIRLINES CUP .... 1993 ....

CARIBBEAN ZONE

First round — 1st leg

North Area

14.03.93 Zion Inter. (USVI) v L'Etoile de Morne (Guad)
17.03.93 La Juventa (Guad) v Tempete (Haiti)
17.03.93 Club Franciscain (Mar) v Coca-Cola R (USVI)
17.03.93 Racing des Gonaives (Haiti) v L'Aiglon (Mar)

South Area

17.03.93 Sithoc (DA) v T&T Hawks (T & T)
17.03.93 Club Colonial (FG) v Robin Hood (Sur)
17.03.93 Leo Victor (Sur) v ASL Sport Guyanais (FG)
20.03.93 Trintoc FC (T & T) v Juventus (DA)

First round — 2nd leg

North Area

24.03.93 L'Aiglon du Lamentin v Racing des Gonalves
27.03.93 Coca-Cola Rovers v Club Franciscain
31.03.93 Tempete v La Juventa
31.03.93 L'Etoile de Morne v Zion International

South Area

23.03.93 Juventus v Trintoc FC
24.03.93 T&T Hawks v Sithoc
31.03.93 Robin Hood v Club Colonial
31.03.93 ASL Sport Guyanais v Leo Victor

NORTH AND CENTRAL ZONE

First round — 1st leg

Group A

26.05.93 Belize champions v Real Espana (Hon)
26.05.93 Comunicaciones (Guat) v Sporting Colon (Pan)

Group B

23.05.93 Belize runners-up v US runners-up
23.05.93 Alianza (ES) v Nicaragua champions

Group C

26.05.93 Puebla (Mex) v Saprissa (CR)
28.05.93 Plaza Amador (Pan) v Nicaragua runners-up

First round — 2nd leg

Group A

02.06.93 Real Espana v Belize champions
06.06.93 Sporting Colon v Comunicaciones

Group B

02.06.93 US runners-up v Belize runners-up
02.06.93 Nicaragua champions v Alianza

Group C

30.05.93 Nicaragua runner-up v Plaza Amador
02.06.93 Saprissa v Puebla

PREVIOUS FINALS

Year	Winners	Runners-up
1962	Guadalajara CD (Mex)	Comuniacaciones (Guat)
1963	Racing Club (Haiti)	walk-over
1964	Not completed	
1965	Not completed	
1966	—	—
1967	Alianza (ES)	Young Colombia (AHO)
1968	Toluca (Mex)	walk-over
1969	Cruz Azul (Mex)	Comunicaciones (Guat)
1970	Cruz Azul (Mex)	*North winners*
	Dep. Saprissa (CR)	*Central winners*
	Transvaal (Sur)	*Caribbean winners*
1971	Cruz Azul (Mex)	LD Alajuelense (CR)
1972	Olimpia (Hon)	Robin Hood (Sur)
1973	Transvaal (Sur)	walk-over
1974	Municipal (Guat)	Transvaal (Sur)
1975	Atletico Espanol (Mex)	Transvaal (Sur)
1976	Aguila (Mex)	Robin Hood (Sur)
1977	America (Mex)	Robin Hood (Sur)
1978	Univ. Guadalajara (Mex)	*North Winners*
	Comunicaciones (Guat)	*Central winners*
	Defence Force (T&T)	*Caribbean winners*
1979	Deportivo FAS (ES)	Young Colombia (AHO)
1980	UNAM (Mex)	Univ. Honduras
1981	Transvaal (Sur)	Atletico Marte (ES)
1982	UNAM (Mex)	Robin Hood (Sur)
1983	Atlante (Mex)	Robin Hood (Sur)
1984	Violette (Haiti)	walk-over
1985	Defence Force (T&T)	Olimpia (Hon)
1986	LD Alajuelense (CR)	Transvaal (Sur)
1987	America (Mex)	Defence Force (T&T)
1988	Olimpia (Hon)	Defence Force (T&T)
1989	UNAM (Mex)	Pinar del Rio (Cuba)
1990	America (Mex)	Pinar del Rio (Cuba)
1991	Puebla (Mex)	Police Force (T&T)
1992	America (Mex)	Alajuela (CR)

COLIN JOSE looks at the history of the game across North America

Soccer in the Roaring Twenties

WHAT do these international soccer stars of the 1920s and 1930s have in common?

Alex Jackson, Alex Massie, Jock Marshall, Barney Battles, Danny Blair, Bill Harper, Alex McNab and Joe Kennaway (Scotland), Josef Eisenhoffer and Bela Guttman (Hungary), Mickey Hamil and Bob McDonald (Northern Ireland), Moritz Haeusler and Paul Mahrer (Austria), Herbert Carlsson (Sweden), Franz Sedlacek (Czechoslovakia) and Sam Chedgzoy of England?

Answer: They all played in the American Soccer League, the first high-profile professional soccer organisation to operate in the United States.

The ASL was formed at the Hotel Astor in New York City on May 7, 1921, and began play in the September of that year with seven clubs, all located along the eastern seaboard — Philadelphia, New York, Todd Shipyards (Brooklyn), Harrison, J & P Coats of Pawtucket, Fall River United (later to become Marksmen) and Holyoke Falcons.

From these small beginnings the ASL grew into a league of international renown, a league which sent shock waves around the soccer world and almost resulted in the United States Soccer Football Association (as the national governing body was known in those days) being kicked out of FIFA.

In effect the ASL was THE North American league of its day, importing some leading players from Europe and playing alongside the many outstanding Americans of that time.

Unfortunately, as with so many ambitious attempts to establish a professional soccer league in the US, it was relatively short-lived. This was due in part to squabbling within the soccer community and then because of the Wall Street crash of 1929 and the subsequent economic depression.

When the first ASL collapsed in 1932 it was replaced with a reformed and less ambitious version in 1933. This survived until 1983, when it too succumbed at about the same time as the North American Soccer League.

A third ASL began play in 1988 and merged with the Western Soccer League in 1990 to form today's APSL.

The heyday of the "first" American Soccer League began in 1924 with the expansion from eight teams to 12 and a 44-game schedule from September right through the winter until May.

References to the teams of that era are to be found in many soccer history books while numerous top players such as those named above (particulary from Scotland) crossed the Atlantic, not only to play soccer but for the promise of jobs.

By 1924-25 the ASL included the following clubs: Fall River Marskmen, Bethlehem Steel, Brooklyn Wanderers, Boston Wonder Workers, New Bedford Whalers, Providence Clamdiggers, J & P Coats, New York Giants, Indiana Flooring of New York, Fleischer Yarn of Philadelphia, Newark and Philadelphia. Most of them lasted for a number of years but others such as Springfield and Shawsheen Indians came and went.

Attendances varied, with the overall average around 6,000 (much higher than in the APSL today). Certain games, such as derbies between Fall River and New Bedford, regularly topped 10,000, and games involving touring teams usually drew more.

A tour in 1926 by Hakoah of Vienna (Austrian champions in 1924-25) had a major impact on the ASL. Hakoah, made up entirely of Jewish players, set an attendance record of 46,000 that was to last until the glory days of the New York Cosmos.

The game was against a combined team from New York Giants and Indiana Flooring, who won 3-0, at the Polo Grounds in New York. Later on this tour 30,000 showed up to see Hakoah play New York Giants.

Several Hakoah players returned a year later and signed for American clubs, notably New York Giants and Brooklyn Wanderers. One was Hungarian international centre-half Bela Guttman who played for Giants and went on to win international acclaim as coach of the great Benfica teams of the 1960s. Later the former Hakoah players had their own club in the ASP.

Fall River were the great team of this era, the Cosmos of their day. Soccer flourished in the city, 50 miles south of Boston, and the local leagues produced two of the greatest players in US soccer history, Billy Gonsalves and Bert Patenaude.

They were in the team who reached the semi-finals of the first World Cup in 1930, when almost the entire squad came from ASL clubs.

In the 1920s Americans such as Archie Stark (Bethlehem Steel), David Brown (New York Giants) and Johnny Nelson (Brooklyn Wanderers), plus Gonsalves and Patenaude, all born or developed in the United States, were scoring goals in bunches.

In the 1924-25 season, for example. Stark scored 67 in 44 games.

Other prolific ASL scorers included Andy Stevens (New Bedford Whalers), Bobby Blair and Werner Nilsen (Boston), Janos Nehadoma (Brooklyn Wanderers), Max Gruenwald (New York Gaints) and Bill Paterson (Providence).

Additionally the ASL developed players and exported them to Britain. Joe Kennaway, who spent most of his ASL career with Providence, went to Celtic, Bob McDonald from Bethlehem Steel to Rangers, Danny Blair from Providence to Clyde and then Aston Villa, Bob McAuley from Fall River to Rangers, Charlie McGill from Fall River to Aberdeen and Barney Battles from Boston to Hearts.

Kenneway was capped with three countries, Canada, US and Scotland, and in 1930 Battles achieved the remarkable feat of scoring three goals in each of three successive League games for Hearts.

As the ASL grew stronger, however, the competition for players grew greater and a number of European associations became concerned that ASL teams were signing men illegally.

The matter came before the 16th FIFA Congress in Finland on June 4, 1927, when the Austrian and Hungarian FA sought the suspension of the United States Soccer Football Association over the matter. Eventually the problem was settled amicably.

Then, in 1928, the ASL began the process that led to its own demise. G.A. Stoneham, owner of New York Nationals, who had bought out the former Indiana Flooring franchise, proposed that ASL clubs be barred from competing in the US Open Cup, because it disrupted the league schedule. This was something like the Football League stopping clubs from competing in the FA Cup.

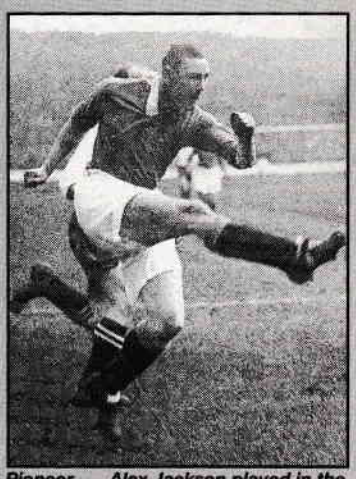
Bethlehem Steel, New York Giants and Newark bucked the league ruling and were suspended by the ASL. The USSFA ordered them to be re-instated, the ASL refused, and the USSFA suspended the entire league.

The ASL (shades of the National Professional Soccer League in 1967) continued to operate as an "outlaw" league, until the matter was settled in October 1929.

By that time the world's financial markets were in a shambles and the great depression was under way. In soccer hotbeds such as Fall River the mills closed and thousands were out of work.

The league staggered on for a few more years before finally falling apart in 1932, and the first attempt to establish a major professional soccer league in the United States had failed.

Many other attempts were to follow, but all so far have been doomed to the same fate.



Pioneer . . . Alex Jackson played in the American Soccer League in the 1930s.

Nana's in charge

THE Ghanaian FA have a new executive committee, with Nana Brew Butler as chairman.

He was chairman of Mysterious Dwarfs FC, one of the oldest clubs in the country, who had just regained their place in the First Division.

Butler is youthful and dynamic, as shown by his fight against all odds to win promotion for Dwarfs, and is expected to reinvigorate Ghana's football.

But Nana Butler is the ninth GFA boss in just over 11 years. This in part explains why Ghana are taking so long to realise their full potential.

Each incoming administration had an individual programme, and national team coaches have been changed frequently — some for reasons other than football.

Ghana failed to dispose of Algeria and so did not reach the second round of the World Cup qualifying matches and must get a point to advance to the next stage.

The coach, Otto Pfister, showed a marked preference for members of the Under-17 team he led to victory in the juvenile World Cup in Italy in 1991. Most fans, however, believe that they are not mature enough, a view which the results bore out.

Relations were further strained when Pfister prevented two players from joining their colleagues for the African Youth Championship in Mauritius, saying they were needed in the senior squad.

Ghana still won the eight-country competition, beating Cameroon 2-0 in the final.

BABA **KASSIM**

The Pele dream is wrecked by an Algerian revival

Grobbelaar injured as crowd trouble threatens Egypt

Sad . . . Abedi Pele.

GHANA and Tunisia were major casualties at the end of the African first round of the World Cup qualifiers — and Egypt were in danger of joining them as a result of disciplinary action after crowd trouble marred their last, decisive group match against Zimbabwe.

The climactic weekend to the preliminary phase in Africa brought massive disappointment for one of the men who made the original draw — Marseille's Abedi Pele, twice African Footballer of the Year. Pele led Ghana out against Algeria in Tlemcen despite a bout of influenza. They needed only a draw to squeeze into the second-round deciders. But even though Ghana took the lead they eventually lost 2-1 and Algeria, luckless finalists in 1982, squeezed through.

Pele, now 31, is unlikely now to crown his career with an appearance at the pinnacle of the international game.

Prospects looked good when striker Akonnor shot Ghana ahead after 15 minutes. But second-half strikes from Brahimi, his second with seven minutes remaining, turned the tables.

Tunisia's ambition in Group F depended on an away win in Casablanca but they could only manage a 0-0 draw and Morocco advanced instead.

African champions Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Senegal and Zambia also qualified along with Cameroon, quarter-finalists in Italy in 1990, who strolled through on the back of 0-0 draw at home to Zaire. The match had

Scorer . . . Kalusha Bwalya.

SOCCER IS CAUGHT IN THE POVERTY TRAP

ENGLAND's first team manager, Walter Winterbottom, was the first to predict that an African side would win the World Cup, and nowadays many people assume he was right.

But Joachim Fickert, German technical director of the Congo national team, believes otherwise — and he should know.

Fickert, who has spent ten years as a coach in various African countries, says: "African football will get worse.

"African economies are worsening, and in terms of medicine and feeding, these countries will have ever greater disadvantages. Zaire can't even afford to bring players together for training in Kinshasa."

The crisis hits refereeing, too.

"In Africa it's easier to influence a referee because his social conditions are worse," says Fickert.

"For the same reason, European finals are never given to Greek, Turkish or Bulgarian referees."

We should not read much into Cameroon's success in Italia '90 says Fickert.

"By chance, they had lots of experienced players together at the same time, who had gained their experience in Europe. They are all gone now, and Cameroon never looked to the future. If you talk about winning the World Cup, it's just possible that one of the North African states could do it one day, because of their better economies. Without money nothing is possible in top-class sport these days."

There is no money in the Congo. "This is the six month in which wages have not been paid," Fickert admits.

Astonishingly, the country reached the finals of the African Nations' Cup last year, and the Under-17 team qualified for the Youth World Cup. But now football is suffering.

Congo could afford to fly only two European-based players to the World Cup qualifying match in South Africa, and those two were not paid a match fee. The inexperienced Congo team went down 1-0, and the result put the nation out of the World Cup.

Despite that defeat, Fickert has a low opinion of South African soccer. "It's football from 20 years ago", he says.

"Many South African managers train teams to play as they used to play, but the game has changed. Yet with South Africa's wealth, they could become a great footballing power. I'm interested in their development."

SIMON **KUPER**

Shocked . . . Bruce Grobbelaar.

to be put back a day because Zaire had transport problems but the extra day's preparation was of no help.

Egypt, the other African team in the 1990 finals, were the centre of controversy in front of an excited 120,000 crowd in the Nasser stadium in Cairo.

Henry Mackop gave Zimbabwe a shock lead in the fifth minute, but Egyptian defender Ashraf Qassim equalised form a 32nd-minute penalty and 1990 World Cup striker Hossam Hassan grabbed the winner eight minutes later.

Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar, four team-mates and coach Reinhard Fabisch were among the casualties as missiles were hurled during and after the game.

Zimbabwe duly protested to FIFA, which summoned reports from both federations and match officials.

Grobbelaar, hit by two lumps of concrete, was admitted to hospital with concussion on the team's return to Harare. Fabisch had five stitches in a gash on his forehead.

There was more trouble in Lusaka, where Zambia needed to beat Madagascar.

More than 30 fans were injured by flying stones and bottles after being turned away when the stadium gates were shut with a capacity 60,000 crowd inside.

Kelvin Mutale gave Zambia the lead in 19th minute, followed by Kalusha Bwalya in the 65th minute and Timothy Mwitwa in the 70th minute. Fidy Rasonaivo scored Madagascar's consolation in the 84th.

DRAW DATA

WORLD CUP

African qualifiers
Second round
Group A: Algeria, Nigeria, Ivory Coast
Group B: Morocco, Zambia, Senegal
Group C: Cameroon, Egypt *(provisional)*, Guinea

● Group winners qualify for the finals *(Algeria, Morocco and Cameroon were seeded)*

RINO **LANDA**

THE FLYING DOCTOR

Khumalo is Africa's latest rising star

DOCTOR KHUMALO is not a medical practioner. It's the name he prefers to the one he was born with, Theophilus.

Khumalo, though, is a household name in South Africa, a country where sports heroes are accorded demi-god status.

His handsome face stares out regularly from magazine covers, he is constantly mobbed in the streets, and he lives the life of a pop star.

He is South African football's answer to Paul Gascoigne, a flamboyant player with tricks and skills galore and a cheeky personality to match.

Khumalo, chosen South African Footballer of the Year for 1992, is on the verge of a possible career in England with Aston Villa, having played for the club in a friendly match against Italy's Fiorentina, then returning for trials and medical tests at Villa Park.

It will be a difficult transition from the lacklustre pace of South African football and the less-than-rigorous physical demands of a game played more for the show than for the result.

But 25-year-old midfielder Khumalo certainly has the necessary talent to make an impression, in much the same way that Zimbabwean international forward Peter Ndlovu has done since being recruited by Coventry City.

With all his technique and calm temperament, Khumalo has the makings of another successful African export to the hard European leagues. He also has the credentials.

He was born in the shanty township of Soweto, outside Johannesburg, the son of another Kaizer Chiefs player, Elkiam "Pro" Khumalo.

Doctor was 18 when he made his debut for Chiefs at the start of the 1987 season, and in his second game he scored a goal in the traditional derby against Orlando Pirates. That won him the immediate affection of the notoriously fickle Chiefs fans.

Since then he has been a regular, winning every possible honour in South African domestic football and building up a massive cult status. He has three championship medals and a Super Bowl medal (the equivalent to the FA Cup), won in December when Chiefs finally ended their Cup bogey with a 2-1 win over Jomo Cosmos.

Khumalo also had the honour of scoring South Africa's first goal after the lifting of their suspension by FIFA in June. A rather dubious penalty was awarded late in the match against Cameroon in Durban, and Khumalo calmly slotted home the kick.

Khumalo featured in five successive matches for the South Africans, but then lost his place for ineffective performances as the national team's fortunes declined rapidly in the new environment of African competition, with consecutive losses to Zimbabwe, Zambia and Nigeria.

He is still, though, a regular feature of the squad and the one player considered likely to improve South Africa's fortunes.

MARK **GLEESON**

Skilful . . . Doctor Khumalo.

TABLES

ALGERIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MC Oran	14	8	3	3	22	14	19
US Chaouia	14	8	2	4	15	11	18
Mostaganem	14	6	5	3	18	13	17
Hussein-Dey	13	5	6	2	15	8	16
Ain-M'Lila	14	6	4	4	16	14	16
JS Kabylie	14	5	5	4	15	11	15
Bordj Menaiel	14	7	1	6	15	14	15
El-Harrach	13	4	5	4	9	8	13
ASM Oran	14	5	3	6	13	15	13
Setif	14	5	3	6	11	19	13
Belcourt	14	4	4	6	13	9	12
Annaba	14	1	10	3	5	12	12
MC Alger	14	2	7	5	10	13	11
Tlemcen	14	4	3	7	11	16	11
MO Constantine	14	4	3	7	9	15	11
Blida	14	1	8	5	10	15	10

TUNISIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ES Tunis	15	12	3	0	31	10	27
JS Kairouan	16	8	5	3	22	13	21
CS Hammam-Lif	16	8	3	5	17	13	19
Club Africain	16	5	8	3	18	13	18
Stade Tunisien	16	5	8	3	19	15	18
CS Sfaxien	16	6	3	7	17	19	15
OC Kerkennah	16	5	4	7	19	20	14
Ol. Beja	16	5	4	7	19	23	14
US Monastir	16	5	4	7	15	25	14
CA Bizerte	16	4	6	7	17	21	13
ES Sahel	16	5	3	8	19	24	13
AS Marsa	16	5	3	8	15	20	13
AS Kasserine	16	4	5	7	11	19	13
SR Sports	15	3	4	8	16	20	10

EGYPT

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Al Zamalek	6	6	0	0	17	4	12
Al Ahly	6	5	1	0	12	2	11
Al Mehalla	7	3	3	1	5	3	9
Al Mesri	7	2	4	1	7	4	8
Al Ismaili	7	3	2	2	5	3	8
Baladiyyat	7	3	2	2	8	7	8
Al Qanat	7	2	4	1	2	1	8
Olympic	7	2	3	2	7	9	7
Al Merrikh	7	2	2	3	5	6	6
Al Ittihad	7	2	2	3	4	6	6
Shebin	7	1	3	3	4	7	5
Railways	7	0	3	4	2	7	3
Tanta	7	0	3	4	4	12	3
Al Menia	7	0	2	5	3	14	2

Palacios helps

NATIONAL team coach Augusto Palacios has helped to restore pride and rekindle enthusiasm among South Africa's supporters.

A 2-0 victory in a friendly in neighbouring Botswana was followed by a creditable draw at home to the highly-fancied Nigerians in a World Cup qualifying match, and a 1-0 defeat of Congo.

World Cup qualification still proved impossible, but the Nations' Cup is not out of the question.

Unfortunately Palacios may lose some of his top players, with several having had trials abroad, generally in England but even in Argentina and Germany. Further departures seem likely to follow those of Fani Madida to Besiktas in Turkey, Gus Makalakalane to Zurich, and Pitso Mosimane to Greek club Ionikos.

The CAF have allowed South Africa to stage the 1994 African Super Cup Final, between the 1993 Champions' Cup and Cup-winners Cup holders, for the Felix Houphouet-Boigny Trophy.

The match probably will be played at the First National Bank Stadium in the Crown Mines district of Johannesburg. A 60,000 gate is almost assured in a stadium with a playing surface rated as probably the best in Africa.

On the domestic front, the National Soccer League are allowing clubs to register five foreign players, but to play only three in any match, in the new season.

The traditional opening Iwisa Charity Tournament, for four clubs selected as the most popular by public ballot, featured Amazulu (Durban), Mamelodi Sundowns (Pretoria), Kaizer Chiefs and Orlando Pirates (both Jo'burg).

Pirates beat Chiefs 3-2 in the final before 90,000 spectators at the FNB Stadium. Chiefs then lost 2-0 to Mamelodi Sundowns in the first round of the BP Trophy, a knockout competition between the top eight clubs of 1992.

A goal by Eric September gave Chiefs a more heartening result in the Champions Cup. Their 1-0 win over LCS Gunners in Botswana should be enough to guarantee them a place in the next round.

Jomo Cosmos also began with a 1-0 victory in the Cup-winners' Cup, at home to Denver Sundowns of Swaziland. Thomas Madigage was the scorer.

BARRY **BAKER**

Al Shabab's Co-op title

AL SHABAB of Riyadh won the Gulf Co-operation Council Club Championship in emphatic style.

The Saudis, one of the most powerful teams in Asia, played hosts to last year's champions, Al Shabab of Dubai (UAE), Al Arabi of Doha (Qatar), Al Moharraq of Manama (Bahrain) and Al Qadsia of Kuwait.

With their six established international players Al Shabab looked very impressive from the start. They won all four games, netting seven goals without conceding any.

The tournament kicked off with the surprising withdrawal of the Oman representatives, Fanja of Muscat, winners in 1989, due to the bitter differences between clubs and the local federation. Al Shabab of Dubai, reigning champions, won three matches, but failed when it mattered, beaten 1-0 by their namesakes from Riyadh. Al Qadsia proved to be the biggest disappointment, losing all their matches.

MOHAMED **CHBARO**

1993 GULF CO-OPERATION COUNCIL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Al Shabab (SA) v Al Qadsia	1-0
Al Arabi v Al Moharraq	2-2
Al Shabab (SA) v Al Shabab (UAE)	1-0
Al Arabi v Al Qadsia	2-1
Al Shabab (UAE) v Al Moharraq	1-0
Al Shabab (SA) v Al Arabi	1-0
Al Moharraq v Al Qadsia	4-2
Al Shabab (UAE) v Al Arabi	2-0
Al Shabab (UAE) v Al Qadsia	3-1
Al Shabab (SA) v Al Moharraq	4-0

Final Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Al Shabab (SA)	4	4	0	0	7	0	8
Al Shabab (UAE)	4	3	0	1	6	2	6
Al Arabi	4	1	1	2	4	6	3
Al Moharraq	4	1	1	2	6	9	3
Al Qadsia	4	0	0	4	4	10	0

PREVIOUS WINNERS

Date	*Winners*
1983	Al Arabi (Kuwait)
1984	Al Ittifaq (Saudi Arabia)
1985	Al Ahly (Saudi Arabia)
1986	Al Hilal (Saudi Arabia)
1987	Qazma (Kuwait)
1988	Al Ittifaq (Saudi Arabia)
1989	Fanja (Oman)
1991	Al Sadd (Qatar)
1992	Al Shabab (UAE)

UAE

AMARILDO ON TOP

AMARILDO, who replaced Pele after his injury in the 1962 World Cup Finals in Chile, is leading his club, Al Ain, towards their fourth League title in the United Arab Emirates.

Former Botafogo forward Amarildo (below) scored the first goal for Brazil in the 3-1 win against Czechoslovakia.

His side top the table with 16 points out of 20, two ahead of last season's Emir's Cup winners, Bani Yas, with a game in hand.

Al Ain also have the league's joint top scorers, Seif Sultant and Majed Al Owayyes, with eight goals each.

Al Shabab and Al Wasl (the reigning champions) are struggling to get into their strides, both having games in hand because of their participation in the Gulf Co-operation Council Club Competition and the Asian Club Competition respectively.

Indonesia

Tight at the top

WITH two-thirds of the fixtures completed Arema and Assyabaab SG are fighting it out at the top of Indonesia's semi-professional Galatama League.

These two also provide the top scorers, Pulut Wijanarko of Assyabaab having 12 and Armena's Singgih Pitono 11.

BPD Jateng, Pupuk Kaltim and Gelora Dewata make up the leading pack.

Pelita Jaya, struggling in eighth place, provide eight of the 26-man squad nominated for the South East Asian Games.

Indonesia's best-known player, Robby Darwis, is also in the squad, despite now playing for amateur side Persib.

Malaysia

Malaysia win one, Thailand lose one

THE Malaysian National team won their own Merdeka tournament for the first time since 1986, with an extra-time victory over South Korea.

In the semi-finals two national teams were drawn against two European club sides.

The Koreans beat CSKA Sofia, with Roh Sang Rae scoring the only goal for a strangely cautious side who failed to take advantage of an early injury to the Bulgarian goalkeeper.

In the other semi-final Malaysia went two up against Swiss side Aarau, then held on for a 2-1 victory.

In the final, watched by 35,000, Dollah Salleh blasted a long-range shot home in the first few minutes. Sang Rae, definitely a man to keep an eye on, scored an equaliser, and for a while the Koreans looked as if they might steal the game.

In extra time, however, Azman Adnan — one of the best players in the tournament — struck twice to send the crowd home happy.

At the same time as the Merdeka tournament, Thailand hosted the annual King's Cup. Despite the clash in dates some nations, including Korea and Malaysia, sent teams to both.

Thailand secured their semi-final place with a 2-0 win against Indonesia, Piyapong Pue-on scoring both goals. He won trophies as both top scorer and player of the tournament.

China were the other impressive side at this stage, with established stars such as Gao Hongko and Baldong getting in among the goals.

Thailand "B" and South Korea completed the last four.

Piyapong Pue-on decided one semi-final, striking a third-minute goal that proved enough to defeat the Koreans. For a while the Thailand "B" team looked as if they might make it a home double, but they lost 2-1 to China after going ahead early on.

The final was a disgrace. Even the Thailand press were critical of their team, *The Bangkok Post* admitting that "right from the start it was evident that the Thais were trying to attack the man instead of the ball".

Nattee Thongsukaew and Sumet Akarapong were sent off, as was Zhai Biao, and the Chinese cashed in on their numerical superiority to win 4-0.

BOB **PATEMAN**

India

Nehru Cup for North Korea

NORTH KOREA became the first Asian country to win the Jawaharlal Nehru Gold Cup when they beat the holders, Romania, 2-0 in Madras.

This was the tenth time the invitational tournament had been staged, but the first at the new Nehru stadium, named after the former Prime Minister.

The arena, with a 40,000 all-seat capacity, was completed in under eight months and officially opened by the present Prime Minister, P.V. Narashimha Rao.

The North Koreans fully deserved their success, and had the tournament's top scorer in Choi Yong-San, with four of their 11 goals.

North Korea beat Bolivia 2-1, drew 3-3 with Romania and defeated Russia 1-0 to reach the semi-final, in which they edged out Finland 3-2.

Romania also qualified for the final, but lost 2-0 to the lively Korean outfit.

Cameroon were widely expected to win the tournament, but they crashed 4-0 to the Romanians in a violent semi-final, in which three players were sent off and five booked.

India won the Fair Play Trophy, and their striker Vijayan was named Man of the Tournament.

G.C. **DAS**

1992 NEHRU GOLD CUP

Group A:

North Korea v Bolivia	2-1
Romania v Russia	1-1
Romania v Bolivia	2-0
Russia v Bolivia	2-1
Romania v North Korea	3-3
North Korea v Russia	1-0

Group B:

India v Finland	0-0
Cameroon v Finland	0-0
India v Cameroon	1-1
Finland v India	2-0
Cameroon v Finland	2-0
India v Cameroon	2-2

Semi-finals:

North Korea v Finland	3-2
Romania v Cameroon	4-0

Final:

North Korea v Romania	2-0

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU GOLD CUP

Previous winners

1982	Uruguay
1983	Hungarian XI
1984	Poland
1985	Soviet Union
1986	Soviet Union XI
1987	Soviet Union XI
1988	Soviet Union XI
1989	Hungarian XI
1990	Paraguayan XI*
1991	Romanian XI

** = Jawaharlal Nehru Centenary Gold Cup*

Lebanon

No Answer to Al Ansar

AL ANSAR, the major soccer power after the civil war in Lebanon, are on course for a fifth successive title.

They have a six-point lead over their main rivals, and still hold an unprecedented record, unbeaten since 1987-88.

But they were surprisingly knocked out in the second round of the FA Cup, a competition they had won since the 1989-90 season, by Al Borj.

The Cup had some other upsets, such as the early exit of Al Neejmeh, the best supported club in the country, and Racing, at the hands of Second Division side La Sagesse and northern club Harakat Al Shabab respectively. Homentmen had four points deduced by the federation for their supporters misconduct.

LEBANON

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Al Ansar	16	13	3	0	42	7	29
Al Safa	16	9	5	2	22	9	23
Racing	16	7	8	1	24	16	22
Homenmen	16	8	5	3	26	18	21
Riyada Wal Adab	16	8	4	4	23	20	20
Al Neejmeh	16	7	3	6	26	21	17
Al Tadamon (Tyre)	16	6	5	5	32	29	17
Al Ahly (Sarba)	16	6	5	5	19	20	17
Al Borj	16	3	10	3	20	15	16
Shabab Al Sahel	16	4	6	6	19	22	14
Al Tadamon (Beirut)	16	3	7	6	14	23	13
Harakat Al Shabab	16	3	7	6	12	22	13
Al Salam (Zghorta)	16	3	6	7	21	29	12
Homentmen*	16	3	9	4	17	19	11
Al Majd	16	2	5	9	16	24	9
Al Ijtimayi	16	2	4	10	15	33	8
Al Ahly (Sidon)	16	1	4	11	9	30	6

** = 4 points deducted.*

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1994 WORLD CUP QUALIFYING GROUPS

EUROPE

38 entries (39 members, Liechtenstein withdrew)

● *Top two teams in each Group qualify for finals (Germany qualify as holders).*

GROUP 1

16.08.92	Estonia v Switzerland	0-6
09.09.92	Switzerland v Scotland	3-1
14.10.92	Italy v Switzerland	2-2
14.10.92	Scotland v Portugal	0-0
25.10.92	Malta v Estonia	0-0
18.11.92	Scotland v Italy	0-0
18.11.92	Switzerland v Malta	3-0
19.12.92	Malta v Italy	1-2
24.01.93	Malta v Portugal	0-1
17.02.93	Scotland v Malta	3-0
24.02.93	Portugal v Italy	1-3
24.03.93	Italy v Malta	
31.03.93	Switzerland v Portugal	
14.04.93	Italy v Estonia	
17.04.93	Malta v Switzerland	
28.04.93	Portugal v Scotland	
01.05.93	Switzerland v Italy	
12.05.93	Estonia v Malta	
19.05.93	Estonia v Scotland	
02.06.93	Scotland v Estonia	
19.06.93	Portugal v Malta	
05.09.93	Estonia v Portugal	
08.09.93	Scotland v Switzerland	
22.09.93	Estonia v Italy	
13.10.93	Portugal v Switzerland	
13.10.93	Italy v Scotland	
10.11.93	Portugal v Estonia	
17.11.93	Italy v Portugal	
17.11.93	Malta v Scotland	
17.11.93	Switzerland v Estonia	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Switzerland	4	3	1	0	14	3	7
Italy	4	2	2	0	7	4	6
Scotland	4	1	2	1	4	3	4
Portugal	3	1	1	1	2	3	3
Estonia	2	0	1	1	0	6	1
Malta	5	0	1	4	1	9	1

GROUP 2

09.09.92	Norway v San Marino	10-0
23.09.92	Norway v Holland	2-1
23.09.92	Poland v Turkey	1-0
07.10.92	San Marino v Norway	0-2
14.10.92	England v Norway	1-1
14.10.92	Holland v Poland	2-2
28.10.92	Turkey v San Marino	4-1
18.11.92	England v Turkey	4-0
16.12.92	Turkey v Holland	1-3
17.02.93	England v San Marino	6-0
24.02.93	Holland v Turkey	3-1
10.03.93	San Marino v Turkey	0-0
24.03.93	Holland v San Marino	
31.03.93	Turkey v England	
28.04.93	England v Holland	
28.04.93	Norway v Turkey	
28.04.93	Poland v San Marino	
19.05.93	San Marino v Poland	
29.05.93	Poland v England	
02.06.93	Norway v England	
09.06.93	Holland v Norway	
08.09.93	England v Poland	
22.09.93	Norway v Poland	
22.09.93	San Marino v Holland	
13.10.93	Holland v England	
13.10.93	Poland v Norway	
27.10.93	Turkey v Poland	
10.11.93	Turkey v Norway	
16.11.93	San Marino v England	
17.11.93	Poland v Holland	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Norway	4	3	1	0	15	2	7
England	3	2	1	0	11	1	5
Holland	4	2	1	1	9	6	5
Poland	2	1	1	0	3	2	3
Turkey	6	1	1	4	6	12	3
San Marino	5	0	1	4	1	22	1

GROUP 3

22.04.92	Spain v Albania	3-0
28.04.92	Northern Ireland v Lithuania	2-2
26.05.92	Rep. of Ireland v Albania	2-0
03.06.92	Albania v Lithuania	1-0
12.08.92	Latvia v Lithuania	1-2
26.08.92	Latvia v Denmark	0-0
09.09.92	Rep. of Ireland v Latvia	4-0
09.09.92	Northern Ireland v Albania	3-0
23.09.92	Latvia v Spain	0-0
23.09.92	Lithuania v Denmark	0-0
14.10.92	Denmark v Rep. of Ireland	0-0
14.10.92	Northern Ireland v Spain	0-0
28.10.92	Lithuania v Latvia	1-1
11.11.92	Albania v Latvia	1-1
18.11.92	Northern Ireland v Denmark	0-1
18.11.92	Spain v Rep. of Ireland	0-0
16.12.92	Spain v Latvia	5-0
17.02.93	Albania v Northern Ireland	1-2
24.02.93	Spain v Lithuania	5-0
31.03.93	Denmark v Spain	
31.03.93	Rep. of Ireland v N. Ireland	
14.04.93	Denmark v Latvia	
14.04.93	Lithuania v Albania	
28.04.93	Rep. of Ireland v Denmark	
28.04.93	Spain v Northern Ireland	
15.05.93	Latvia v Albania	
25.05.93	Lithuania v Northern Ireland	
26.05.93	Albania v Rep. of Ireland	
02.06.93	Denmark v Albania	
02.06.93	Latvia v Northern Ireland	
02.06.93	Lithuania v Spain	
09.06.93	Latvia v Rep. of Ireland	
16.06.93	Lithuania v Rep. of Ireland	
25.08.93	Denmark v Lithuania	
08.09.93	Albania v Denmark	
08.09.93	Rep. of Ireland v Lithuania	
08.09.93	Northern Ireland v Latvia	
22.09.93	Albania v Spain	
13.10.93	Denmark v Northern Ireland	
13.10.93	Rep. of Ireland v Spain	
17.11.93	N. Ireland v Rep. of Ireland	
17.11.93	Spain v Denmark	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	6	3	3	0	13	0	9
Rep. of Ireland	4	2	2	0	6	0	6
N. Ireland	5	2	2	1	7	4	6
Denmark	4	1	3	0	1	0	5
Lithuania	6	1	3	2	5	10	5
Latvia	7	0	4	3	3	13	4
Albania	6	1	1	4	3	11	3

GROUP 4

22.04.92	Belgium v Cyprus	1-0
06.05.92	Romania v Faroe Islands	7-0
20.05.92	Romania v Wales	5-1
03.06.92	Faroe Islands v Belgium	0-3
18.06.92	Faroe Islands v Cyprus	0-2
02.09.92	Czechoslovakia v Belgium	1-2
09.09.92	Wales v Faroe Islands	6-0
23.09.92	Czechoslovakia v Faroe Islands	4-0
14.10.92	Belgium v Romania	1-0
14.10.92	Cyprus v Wales	0-1
14.11.92	Romania v Czechoslovakia	1-1
18.11.92	Belgium v Wales	2-0
29.11.92	Cyprus v Romania	1-4
13.02.93	Cyprus v Belgium	0-3
24.03.93	Cyprus v Czechoslovakia	
31.03.93	Wales v Belgium	
14.04.93	Romania v Cyprus	
25.04.93	Cyprus v Faroe Islands	
28.04.93	Czechoslovakia v Wales	
22.05.93	Belgium v Faroe Islands	
02.06.93	Czechoslovakia v Romania	
06.06.93	Faroe Islands v Wales	
16.06.93	Faroe Islands v Czechoslovakia	
08.09.93	Wales v Czechoslovakia	
08.09.93	Faroe Islands v Romania	
13.10.93	Romania v Belgium	
13.10.93	Wales v Cyprus	
27.10.93	Czechoslovakia v Cyprus	
17.11.93	Wales v Romania	
17.11.93	Belgium v Czechoslovakia	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	6	6	0	0	12	1	12
Romania	5	3	1	1	17	4	7
Wales	4	2	0	2	8	7	4
Czechoslovakia	3	1	1	1	6	3	3
Cyprus	5	1	0	4	3	9	2
Faroe Islands	5	0	0	5	0	22	0

GROUP 5

13.05.92	Greece v Iceland	1-0
03.06.92	Hungary v Iceland	1-2
09.09.92	Luxembourg v Hungary	0-3
07.10.92	Iceland v Greece	0-1
14.10.92	Russia v Iceland	1-0
28.10.92	Russia v Luxembourg	2-0
11.11.92	Greece v Hungary	0-0
17.02.93	Greece v Luxembourg	2-0
31.03.93	Hungary v Greece	
14.04.93	Luxembourg v Russia	
28.04.93	Russia v Hungary	
20.05.93	Russia v Greece	
20.05.93	Luxembourg v Iceland	
02.06.93	Iceland v Russia	
16.06.93	Iceland v Hungary	
08.09.93	Hungary v Russia	
08.09.93	Iceland v Luxembourg	
12.10.93	Luxembourg v Greece	
27.10.93	Hungary v Luxembourg	
17.11.93	Greece v Russia	

★ *Yugoslavia excluded due to UN sanctions.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Greece	4	3	1	0	4	0	7
Russia	2	2	0	0	3	0	4
Hungary	3	1	1	1	4	2	3
Iceland	4	1	0	3	2	4	2
Luxembourg	3	0	0	3	0	7	0

GROUP 6

14.05.92	Finland v Bulgaria	0-3
09.09.92	Bulgaria v France	2-0
09.09.92	Finland v Sweden	0-1
07.10.92	Sweden v Bulgaria	2-0
14.10.92	France v Austria	2-0
28.10.92	Austria v Israel	5-2
11.11.92	Israel v Sweden	1-3
14.11.92	France v Finland	2-1
02.12.92	Israel v Bulgaria	0-2
17.02.93	Israel v France	0-4
27.03.93	Austria v France	
14.04.93	Austria v Bulgaria	
28.04.93	France v Sweden	
28.04.93	Bulgaria v Finland	
12.05.93	Bulgaria v Israel	
13.05.93	Finland v Austria	
19.05.93	Sweden v Austria	
02.06.93	Sweden v Israel	
16.06.93	Finland v Israel	
22.08.93	Sweden v France	
25.08.93	Austria v Finland	
08.09.93	Finland v France	
08.09.93	Bulgaria v Sweden	
13.10.93	France v Israel	
13.10.93	Bulgaria v Austria	
13.10.93	Sweden v Finland	
27.20.93	Israel v Austria	
10.11.93	Austria v Sweden	
10.11.93	Israel v Finland	
17.11.93	France v Bulgaria	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	4	3	0	1	8	3	6
Bulgaria	4	3	0	1	7	2	6
Sweden	3	3	0	0	6	1	6
Austria	2	1	0	1	5	4	2
Finland	3	0	0	3	1	6	0
Israel	4	0	0	4	3	14	0

French striker Cantona struggles against two Israeli defenders in Tel Aviv.

AFRICA

37 entries (48 members)

● *Group winners qualify for Second Round of 3 mini leagues of 3 teams each. Winners qualify for finals.*

First Round

GROUP A

09.10.92	Algeria v Burundi	3-1
25.10.92	Burundi v Ghana	1-0
20.12.92	Ghana v Algeria	2-0
17.01.93	Burundi v Algeria	0-0
31.01.93	Ghana v Burundi	1-0
26.02.93	Algeria v Ghana	2-1

★ *Uganda withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ALGERIA	4	2	1	1	5	4	5
Ghana	4	2	0	2	4	3	4
Burundi	4	1	1	2	2	4	3

GROUP B

18.10.92	Cameroon v Swaziland	5-0
25.10.92	Swaziland v Zaire	1-0
10.01.93	Zaire v Cameroon	1-2
17.01.93	Swaziland v Cameroon	0-0
29.02.93	Cameroon v Zaire	0-0

★ *Libena withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
CAMEROON	4	2	2	0	7	1	6
Swaziland	3	1	1	1	1	5	3
Zaire	3	0	1	2	1	3	1

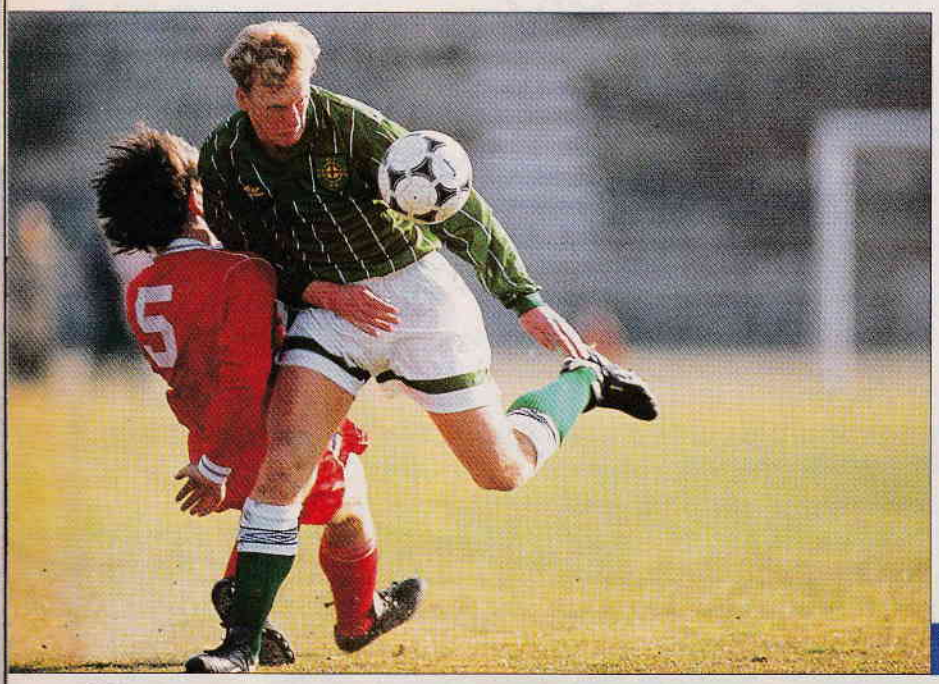
Not played: *Zaire v Swaziland*

GROUP C

11.10.92	Egypt v Angola	1-0
11.10.92	Zimbabwe v Togo	1-0
25.10.92	Togo v Egypt	1-4
20.12.92	Zimbabwe v Egypt	2-1
10.01.93	Angola v Zimbabwe	1-1
17.01.93	Togo v Zimbabwe	1-2
18.01.93	Angola v Egypt	0-0
31.01.93	Egypt v Togo	3-0
31.01.93	Zimbabwe v Angola	2-1
28.02.93	Egypt v Zimbabwe	*2-1

** result void after protest arising from crowd trouble (see page 52). The match is to be replayed at a date yet to be announced.*

28.02.93	Togo v Angola	0-1



Northern Ireland's Dowie in action against Albania's Vata.

Nigeria's Precious Monye in action against South Africa. The match, in Lagos, ended in a 4-0 victory for Nigeria.

★ *Sierra Leone withdrew, Togo replaced them.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Zimbabwe	5	4	1	0	8	4	9
Egypt	5	3	1	1	9	3	7
Angola	5	1	2	2	3	4	4
Togo	5	0	0	5	2	11	0

Not played: *Angola v Togo*

GROUP D

10.10.92 Nigeria v South Africa 4-0
25.10.92 South Africa v Congo 1-0
20.12.92 Congo v Nigeria 0-1
17.01.93 South Africa v Nigeria 0-0
31.01.93 Congo v South Africa 0-1
27.02.93 Nigeria v Congo 2-0

★ *Sao Tome e Principe withdrew, Libya withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
NIGERIA	4	3	1	0	7	0	7
South Africa	4	2	1	1	2	4	5
Congo	4	0	0	4	0	5	0

GROUP E

10.10.92 Ivory Coast v Botswana 6-0
25.10.92 Niger v Ivory Coast 0-0
20.12.92 Botswana v Niger 0-1
17.01.93 Botswana v Ivory Coast 0-0
31.01.93 Ivory Coast v Niger 1-0
28.02.93 Niger v Botswana 2-1

★ *Sudan withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
IVORY COAST	4	2	2	0	7	0	6
Niger	4	2	1	1	3	2	5
Botswana	4	0	1	3	1	9	1

GROUP F

11.10.92 Morocco v Ethiopia 5-0
11.10.92 Tunisia v Benin 5-1
25.10.92 Ethiopia v Tunisia 0-0
25.10.92 Benin v Morocco 0-1
20.12.92 Tunisia v Morocco 1-1
20.12.92 Ethiopia v Benin 3-1
17.01.93 Ethiopia v Morocco 0-1
17.01.93 Benin v Tunisia 0-5
31.01.93 Tunisia v Ethiopia 3-0
31.01.93 Morocco v Benin 5-0
28.02.93 Benin v Ethiopia 1-0
28.02.93 Morocco v Tunisia 0-0

★ *Malawi withdrew, Benin replaced them.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MOROCCO	6	4	2	0	13	1	10
Tunisia	6	3	3	0	14	2	9
Ethiopia	6	1	1	4	3	11	3
Benin	6	1	0	5	3	19	2

GROUP G

11.10.92 Gabon v Mozambique 3-1
25.10.92 Mozambique v Senegal 0-1
19.12.92 Gabon v Senegal 3-2
17.02.93 Mozambique v Gabon 1-1
30.01.93 Senegal v Mozambique 6-1
27.02.93 Senegal v Gabon 1-0

★ *Mauritania withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SENEGAL	4	3	0	1	10	4	6
Gabon	4	2	1	1	7	5	5
Mozambique	4	0	1	3	3	11	1

GROUP H

11.01.92 Madagascar v Namibia 3-0
25.10.92 Namibia v Zambia 0-4
20.12.92 Madagascar v Zambia 2-0
17.01.93 Namibia v Madagascar 0-1
30.01.93 Zambia v Namibia 4-0
27.02.93 Zambia v Madagascar 3-1

★ *Burkina Faso withdrew and were replaced by Namibia. Tanzania also withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ZAMBIA	4	3	0	1	11	3	6
Madagascar	4	3	0	1	7	3	6
Namibia	4	0	0	4	0	12	0

GROUP I

20.12.92 Guinea v Kenya 4-0
27.02.93 Kenya v Guinea 2-0

★ *Gambia & Mali withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
GUINEA	2	1	0	1	4	2	2
Kenya	2	1	0	1	2	4	2

CONCACAF

23 entries (27 members, Cuba withdrew)

● *Winners of Group A play (home & away) against winners of Group B. Winning nation qualifies for finals. Runners-up play Oceania winners for right to play South America Group A runners-up for a place in the finals (United States qualify as hosts).*

Pre-preliminary Round
CARIBBEAN REGION — NORTH

21.03.92 Dominican Rep. v P. Rico 1-2
22.03.92 St Lucia v St Vincent 1-0
28.03.92 P. Rico v Dominican Rep. 1-1
29.03.92 St Vincent v St Lucia 3-1

Preliminary Round
CARIBBEAN REGION — NORTH

26.04.92 Bermuda v Haiti 1-0
25.05.92 Jamaica v Puerto Rico 2-1
25.05.92 Haiti v Bermuda 2-1
30.05.92 Puerto Rico v Jamaica 0-1
St Vincent v Cuba★

★ *Cuba withdrew.*

St Vincent, Bermuda & Jamaica qualify for 1st rnd

CARIBBEAN REGION — SOUTH

19.04.92 Dutch Antilles v Antigua 1-1
26.04.92 Antigua v Dutch Antilles 3-0
26.04.92 Guyana v Surinam 1-2
24.05.92 Barbados v Trin. & Tobago 1-2
25.05.92 Surinam v Guyana 1-1
31.05.92 Trin. & Tobago v Barbados 3-0

Trinidad & Tobago, Antigua and Surinam qualify for 1st rnd

First Round
CENTRAL REGION

19.07.92 Guatemala v Honduras 0-0
19.07.92 Nicaragua v El Salvador 0-5
23.07.92 El Salvador v Nicaragua 5-1
26.07.92 Honduras v Guatemala 2-0
16.08.92 Panama v Costa Rica 1-0
23.08.92 Costa Rica v Panama 5-1

El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica qualify for 2nd rnd

CARIBBEAN REGION

14.06.92 Antigua v Bermuda 0-3
05.07.92 Trinidad & Tobago v Jamaica 1-2
04.07.92 Bermuda v Antigua 2-1
02.08.92 Surinam v St Vincent 0-0
16.08.92 Jamaica v Trinidad & Tobago 1-1
30.08.92 St Vincent v Surinam 2-1

Bermuda, Jamaica and St Vincent qualify for 2nd rnd

Second Round
GROUP A

08.11.92 Costa Rica v Honduras 2-3
08.11.92 St Vincent v Mexico 0-4
15.11.92 Mexico v Honduras 2-0
15.11.92 St Vincent v Costa Rica 0-1
22.11.92 Mexico v Costa Rica 4-0
22.11.92 St Vincent v Honduras 0-4
28.11.92 Honduras v St Vincent 4-0
29.11.92 Costa Rica v Mexico 2-0
05.12.92 Honduras v Costa Rica 2-1
06.12.92 Mexico v St Vincent 11-0
13.12.92 Costa Rica v St Vincent 5-0
13.12.92 Honduras v Mexico 1-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MEXICO	6	4	1	1	22	3	9
HONDURAS	6	4	1	1	14	6	9
Costa Rica	6	3	0	3	11	9	6
St. Vincent	6	0	0	6	0	29	0

Mexico & Honduras qualify for final rnd

GROUP B

18.10.92 Jamaica v Canada 1-1
18.10.92 Bermuda v El Salvador 1-0
25.10.92 El Salvador v Canada 1-1
25.10.92 Bermuda v Jamaica 1-1
01.11.92 Canada v Jamaica 1-0
01.11.92 El Salvador v Bermuda 4-1
08.11.92 Canada v El Salvador 2-3
08.11.92 Jamaica v Bermuda 3-2
15.11.92 Canada v Bermuda 4-2
22.11.92 Jamaica v El Salvador 0-2
06.12.92 Bermuda v Canada 0-0
06.12.92 El Salvador v Jamaica 2-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
EL SALVADOR	6	4	1	1	12	6	9
CANADA	6	2	3	1	9	7	7
Jamaica	6	1	2	3	6	9	4
Bermuda	6	1	2	3	7	12	4

El Salvador & Canada qualify for final rnd

Final Round

04.04.93 Honduras v Canada
04.04.93 El Salvador v Mexico
11.04.93 Mexico v Honduras
11.04.93 Canada v El Salvador
18.04.93 Canada v Honduras
18.04.93 Mexico v El Salvador
25.04.93 Mexico v Canada
25.04.93 Honduras v El Salvador
02.05.93 Honduras v Mexico
02.05.93 El Salvador v Canada
09.05.93 Canada v Mexico
09.05.93 El Salvador v Honduras

SOUTH AMERICA

9 entries (10 members, Chile suspended)

● *Winners of Group A & winners & runners-up in Group B qualify for finals. Group A runners-up play winners of CONCACAF/ Oceania play-off for a place in the finals.*

GROUP A

Argentina, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru.

01.08.93 Colombia v Paraguay
01.08.93 Peru v Argentina
08.08.93 Paraguay v Argentina
08.08.93 Peru v Colombia
15.08.93 Colombia v Argentina
15.08.93 Paraguay v Peru
22.08.93 Argentina v Peru
22.08.93 Paraguay v Colombia
29.08.93 Argentina v Paraguay
29.08.93 Colombia v Peru
05.09.93 Argentina v Colombia
05.09.93 Peru v Paraguay

GROUP B

Brazil, Uruguay, Ecuador, Bolivia, Venezuela.

08.07.93 Ecuador v Brazil
08.07.93 Venezuela v Bolivia
25.07.93 Bolivia v Brazil
25.07.93 Venezuela v Uruguay
01.08.93 Uruguay v Ecuador
01.08.93 Venezuela v Brazil
08.08.93 Bolivia v Uruguay
08.08.93 Ecuador v Venezuela
15.08.93 Bolivia v Ecuador
15.08.93 Uruguay v Brazil
22.08.93 Bolivia v Venezuela
22.08.93 Brazil v Ecuador
29.08.93 Brazil v Bolivia
29.08.93 Uruguay v Venezuela
05.09.93 Brazil v Venezuela
05.09.93 Uruguay v Ecuador
12.09.93 Uruguay v Bolivia
12.09.93 Venezuela v Ecuador
19.09.93 Brazil v Uruguay
19.09.93 Ecuador v Bolivia

OCEANIA

7 entries (8 members, Western Samoa withdrew)

● *The two Group winners play (home & away) with the winners qualifying to meet the CONCACAF runners-up. The winners of that match will meet the South America Group A runners-up for a place in the finals.*

GROUP 1

11.07.92 Solomon Islands v Tahiti 1-1
04.09.92 Solomon Islands v Australia .. 1-2
11.09.92 Tahiti v Australia 0-3
20.09.92 Australia v Tahiti 2-0
25.09.92 Australia v Solomon Islands .. 6-1
09.10.92 Tahiti v Solomon Islands 4-2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AUSTRALIA	4	4	0	0	13	2	8
Tahiti	4	1	1	2	5	8	3
Solomon Islands	4	0	1	3	5	13	1

Australia qualify for final play-off

GROUP 2

07.06.92 New Zealand v Fiji 3-0
27.06.92 Vanuatu v New Zealand 1-4
01.07.92 New Zealand v Vanuatu 8-0
12.09.92 Fiji v Vanuatu 3-0
19.09.92 Fiji v New Zealand 0-0
26.09.92 Vanuatu v Fiji 0-3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
NEW ZEALAND	4	3	1	0	15	1	7
Fiji	4	2	1	1	6	3	5
Vanuatu	4	0	0	4	1	18	0

New Zealand qualify for final play-off

PLAY-OFF

1st leg
29.05.93 New Zealand v Australia

2nd leg
06.06.93 Australia v New Zealand

ASIA

29 entries (36 members)

● *The six Group winners qualify for Second Round, to be played as (home & away) mini-league. Winners & runners-up qualify for finals.*

First Round
GROUP A

22.05.93 Jordan v Yemen ▲
22.05.93 Pakistan v China ▲
24.05.93 Jordan v Iraq ▲
24.05.93 Yemen v Pakistan ▲
26.05.93 Jordan v China ▲
26.05.93 Yemen v Iraq ▲
28.05.93 Pakistan v Iraq ▲
28.05.93 Yemen v China ▲
30.05.93 Jordan v Pakistan ▲
30.05.93 Iraq v China ▲
12.06.93 Yemen v Jordan ▼
12.06.93 China v Pakistan ▼
14.06.93 Iraq v Jordan ▼
14.06.93 Pakistan v Yemen ▼
16.06.93 China v Jordan ▼
16.06.93 Iraq v Yemen ▼
18.06.93 Iraq v Pakistan ▼
18.06.93 China v Yemen ▼
20.06.93 Pakistan v Jordan ▼
20.06.93 China v Iraq ▼

▲ in Amman, Jordan
▼ in Beijing, China

GROUP B

28.06.93 Iran v Oman ▲
28.06.93 Taiwan v Syria ▲
30.06.93 Oman v Syria ▲
30.06.93 Iran v Taiwan ▲
02.07.93 Oman v Taiwan ▲
02.07.93 Iran v Syria ▲
07.07.93 Oman v Iran ▼
07.07.93 Syria v Taiwan ▼
09.07.93 Syria v Oman ▼
09.07.93 Taiwan v Iran ▼
11.07.93 Taiwan v Oman ▼
11.07.93 Syria v Iran ▼

▲ in Tehran, Iran
▼ in Damascus, Syria
★ *Myanmar withdrew.*

GROUP C

09.04.93 Qatar v Indonesia ▲
09.04.93 North Korea v Vietnam ▲
11.04.93 North Korea v Singapore ▲
11.04.93 Qatar v Vietnam ▲
13.04.93 North Korea v Indonesia ▲
13.04.93 Vietnam v Singapore ▲
16.04.93 Qatar v Singapore ▲
16.04.93 Vietnam v Indonesia ▲
24.04.93 Indonesia v Qatar ▼
24.04.93 Vietnam v North Korea ▼
26.04.93 Singapore v North Korea ▼
26.04.93 Vietnam v Qatar ▼
28.04.93 Indonesia v North Korea ▼
28.04.93 Singapore v Vietnam ▼
30.04.93 Singapore v Qatar ▼
30.04.93 Indonesia v Vietnam ▼
02.05.93 Singapore v Indonesia ▼
02.05.93 North Korea v Qatar ▼

▲ in Doha, Qatar
▼ in Singapore

GROUP D

07.05.93 Lebanon v India ▲
07.05.93 Hong Kong v Bahrain ▲
09.05.93 Bahrain v South Korea ▲
09.05.93 Lebanon v Hong Kong ▲
11.05.93 India v Hong Kong ▲
11.05.93 Lebanon v South Korea ▲
13.05.93 Lebanon v Bahrain ▲
13.05.93 India v South Korea ▲
15.05.93 Hong Kong v South Korea ▲
15.05.93 Bahrain v India ▲
05.06.93 South Korea v Hong Kong ▼
05.06.93 Bahrain v Lebanon ▼
07.06.93 India v Bahrain ▼
07.06.93 South Korea v Lebanon ▼
09.06.93 Hong Kong v Lebanon ▼
09.06.93 South Korea v India ▼
11.06.93 India v Lebanon ▼
11.06.93 Bahrain v Hong Kong ▼
13.06.93 South Korea v Bahrain ▼
13.06.93 Hong Kong v India ▼

▲ in Beirut, Lebanon
▼ in Seoul, South Korea

GROUP E

01.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Macao ▲
01.05.93 Malaysia v Kuwait ▲
03.05.93 Kuwait v Macao ▲
03.05.93 Malaysia v Saudi Arabia ▲
05.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Kuwait ▲
05.05.93 Malaysia v Macao ▲
14.05.93 Malaysia v Kuwait ▼
14.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Macao ▼
16.05.93 Macao v Kuwait ▼
16.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Malaysia ▼
18.05.93 Malaysia v Macao ▼
18.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Kuwait ▼

▲ in Kuala Lumpur
▼ in Riyadh

GROUP F

08.04.93 Japan v Thailand ▲
08.04.93 Sri Lanka v UAE ▲
11.04.93 Japan v Bangladesh ▲
11.04.93 Thailand v Sri Lanka ▲
13.04.93 Sri Lanka v Bangladesh ▲
13.04.93 UAE v Thailand ▲
15.04.93 Japan v Sri Lanka ▲
15.04.93 UAE v Bangladesh ▲
18.04.93 Japan v UAE ▲
18.04.93 Thailand v Bangladesh ▲
28.04.93 Thailand v Japan ▼
28.04.93 UAE v Sri Lanka ▼
30.04.93 Bangladesh v Japan ▼
30.04.93 Thailand v UAE ▼
03.05.93 Bangladesh v UAE ▼
03.05.93 Sri Lanka v Thailand ▼
05.05.93 Bangladesh v Thailand ▼
05.05.93 Sri Lanka v Japan ▼
07.05.93 Bangladesh v Sri Lanka ▼
07.05.93 UAE v Japan ▼

▲ in Tokyo, Japan
▼ in Dubai, UAE

Portugal's Oceano causes havoc in the Italian defence, but Italy won 3-1 in Oporto.

BELGIUM

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

WEEKEND

CUP — QUARTER-FINAL

SERAING 0
WAREGEM 1

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

WEEKEND

LIEGE 3 (Arnold 41, 88, De Rocover 84 o.g.)
GENT 1 (Medved 39). **Att:** 6,000.

BEVEREN 1 (Boguen 4)
ANDERLECHT 3 (Nilis 33, Degryse 68, Albert 84). **Att:** 12,000.

CHARLEROI 1 (Wuyts 9)
CLUB BRUGGE 1 (Verheyen 90). **Att:** 6,000.

LOKEREN 1 (Becharos 92)
EKEREN 1 (Hofmans 39). **Att:** 2,500.

MECHELEN 0
LIERSE 1 (Kerchoven 75). **Att:** 8,000.

CERCLE BRUGGE 2 (Weber 44, Karacic 73)
GENK 2 (Beyens 29, Busuttil 38). **Att:** 3,000.

ANTWERP 3 (Jakouljevic 22, Severeyns 39, 62)
WAREGEM 1 (Vidmar 72). **Att:** 7,000.

LOMMEL 2 (Cannaerts 17, Vangeneugden 89)
BOOM 0. **Att:** 4,000.

CUP — QUARTER-FINALS

SERAING 0
WAREGEM 1 (Descamps 67). **Att:** 8,000.

ANDERLECHT 7 (Bosman 7, 22, 34, 46, Nilis 33, 49, Boffin 36)
GEEL 1 (M'Buyu 67). **Att:** 10,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

WEEKEND

LIERSE 0
LIEGE 2 (Ikpeba (35,70). **Att:** 3,500.

CHARLEROI 1 (Brogno 90)
ANTWERP 1 (Severeyns 87). **Att:** 12,000.

GENT 0
BEVEREN 3 (Soudan 11, 35, 42). **Att:** 6,000.

ANDERLECHT 3 (Nilis 23, 34, Degryse 42)
CERCLE BRUGGE 1 (Lamaire 12). **Att:** 17,000.

GENK 1 (Busuttil 85)
WAREGEM 1 (Vidmar 53). **Att:** 8,000.

BOOM 0
RWDM 1 (Rubenilson 75). **Att:** 3,000.

EKEREN v MECHELEN — *postponed.*

CLUB BRUGGE 3 (Verheyen 19, 67, Van den Heyden 90)
LOMMEL 3 (Haagderen 7, Peeters 60, Vanaken 64). **Att:** 6,200.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 7

WEEKEND

LIEGE 1 (Foguene 60)
EKEREN 1 (Bailenghien 72). **Att:** 3,000.

BEVEREN 2 (Van Ham 24, Van Overvelt 38)
LIERSE 0. **Att:** 6,000.

LOMMEL 3 (Peeters 40, Van Veldhoven 68, 77)
CHARLEROI 1 (Malbasa 24). **Att:** 4,500.

MECHELEN 1 (Eszenyi 38)
STANDARD 0. **Att:** 18,000.

ANTWERP 4 (Czerniatynski 22, 36, 78, Severeyns 89)
GENK 0. **Att:** 4,000.

LOKEREN 0
BOOM 0. **Att:** 3,000.

RWDM 1 (Rubenilson 73)
CLUB BRUGGE 2 (Borkelmans 15, Amokachi 64). **Att:** 10,000.

WAREGEM 0
ANDERLECHT 2 (Degryse 60, Nilis 88). **Att:** 13,000.

CERCLE BRUGGE 1 (Lamaire 8)
GENT 1 (Viscaal 90). **Att:** 4,500.

HOLLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

MIDWEEK

FC TWENTE 1 (Kool 58)
WILLEM 0. **Att:** 6,100.

FORTUNA SITTARD 1 (Samuel 23)
AJAX 4 (Bergkamp 23, Vink 43, Alflen 66, Winjaart 93). **Att:** 9,000.

WEEKEND

FC VOLENDAM 0
CAMBUUR 0. **Att:** 3,000.

PSV EINDHOVEN 2 (Linskens 26, 84)
AJAX 1 (Bergkamp 24). **Att:** 27,800.

RODA JC 1 (Huiberts 36)
RKC 1 (Van Hoogdalem 65). **Att:** 7,300.

SPARTA 2 (Bogarde 30, Cornelissen 72).
DEN BOSCH 0. **Att:** 3,900.

GA EAGLES 1 (Bosvelt 3)
MVV 2 (Meijer 50, 79). **Att:** 3,750.

SVV/DORDRECHT 1 (Barendse 65)
FEYENOORD 5 (Witschge 15, De Wolf 48, Taument 50, Scholten 82, Fraser 87). **Att:** 12,600.

UTRECHT 0
WILLEM II 1 (Sylla 79). **Att:** 4,300.

FORTUNA SITTARD v GRONINGEN — *postponed.*

TWENTE 0
VITESSE 0. **Att:** 6,200.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

MIDWEEK

SPARTA 2 (Van den Berg 40, 71)
TWENTE 3 (Hoogha 27, Ten Hag 32, Vurens 87). **Att:** 2,500.

GRONINGEN 0
VITESSE 1 (Latuheru 26). **Att:** 11,042.

CUP — QUARTER-FINALS

FC TWENTE 2 (Vurens 39, Hoogha 53)
AJAX 4 (Berkgamp 58, Overmars 59, Alflen 91, Vink 93). **Att:** 15,500.

DEN BOSCH 2 (Nighuis 3, Volkerink 16)
GRONINGEN 0. **Att:** 2,011.

HEERENVEEN 2 (Tammer 89, Roelofsen 96)
PSV 1 (Numan 51). **Att:** 12,500.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

WEEKEND

VITESSE 2 (Eyer 46, Roelofsen 57)
RKC 2 (Hoekstra 5, Boogers 21). **Att:** 4,036.

CAMBUUR 1 (Gosgens 89)
RODA JC 1 (Huiberks 78). **Att:** 5,000.

AJAX v VOLDENAM — *postponed.*

DEN BOSCH 2 (Nijhuis 15, 31)
PSV 2 (Romario 27, Van der Gaag 44). **Att:** 7,421.

MVV 0
SPARTA 2 (Van den Berg 55 pen, Bogards 82). **Att:** 6,590.

TWENTE 4 (Kool 4, Arts 60, Gaasbeek 84, Mols 89)
FORTUNA SITTARD 1 (Janssen 32). **Att:** 5,400.

FEYENOORD 4 (Witschge 7, Van Loen 34, Kiprich 59 pen, Gorre 77)
GA EAGLES 2 (Looms 80, Bosvelt 85). **Att:** 14,818.

GRONINGEN v UTRECHT — *postponed.*

WILLEM II 5 (Van Arum 27, 63, Vangee 45, 85, Meys 78)
SVV/DORDRECHT 0. **Att:** 5,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 7

WEEKEND

PSV 2 (Romario 34, 58)
MVV 1 (Meijer 62). **Att:** 27,500.

SPARTA 0
FEYENOORD 2 (Scholten 50, Witschge 70). **Att:** 13,000.

RKC 2 (Brands 40 pen, Jalink 83)
CAMBUUR 2 (Keizer 84, Abma 87). **Att:** 2,200.

GA EAGLES 0
GRONINGEN 0. **Att:** 1,000.

UTRECHT 1 (Polley 85)
TWENTE 0. **Att:** 4,850.

FORTUNA SITTARD 1 (Sneekes 38)
VITESSE 2 (Roelofsen 15, Latuheru 37). **Att:** 2,000.

VOLENDAM 0
AJAX 0. **Att:** 11,000.

PORTUGAL

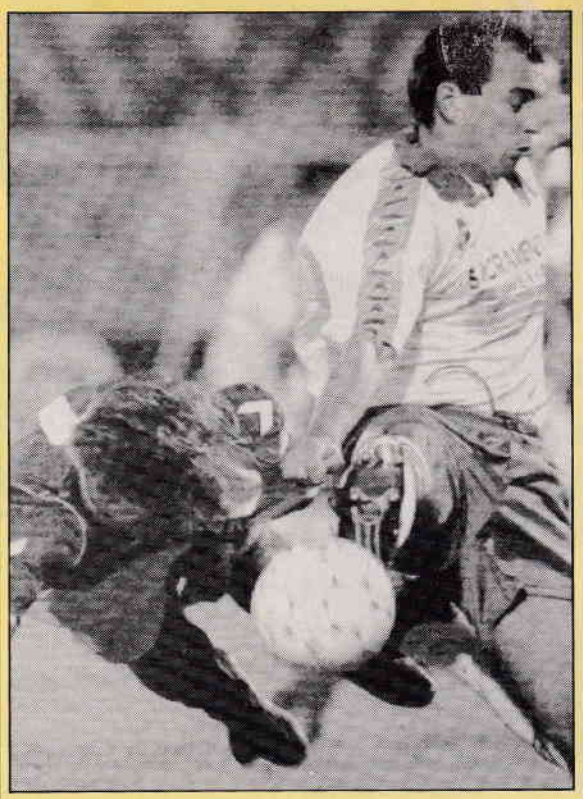
WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

WEEKEND

BENFICA 1
FAMALICAO 0

GUIMARAES 2
BELENENSES 1

BEIRA-MAR 3
ESTORIL 0



Famalicao defender Carlos Fonseca (right) brings down Benfica's Joao Pinto I.

CHAVES 1
PACOS FERREIRA 2

FC PORTO 3
TIRSENSE 1

BOAVISTA 1
SALGUEIROS 0

SPORTING 2
BRAGA 0

FARENSE 4
ESPINHO 1

GIL VICENTE 2
MARITIMO 0

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

WEEKEND

ESTORIL 1
MARITIMO 0

BELENENSES 0
BEIRA-MAR 0

PACOS FERREIRA 1
GUIMARAES 0

TIRSENSE 2
CHAVES 1

FARENSE 3
GIL VICENTE 1

SALGUEIROS 0
FC PORTO 3

ESPINHO 3
SPORTING 1

FAMALICAO 1
BOAVISTA 1

BRAGA 0
BENFICA 2

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 7

WEEKEND

GUIMARAES 2
TIRSENSE 1

BEIRA-MAR 0
PACOS FERREIRA 1

CHAVES 3
SALGUEIROS 0

MARITIMO 4
BELENENSES 2

FC PORTO 0
FAMALICAO 1

BOAVISTA 0
BRAGA 0

BENFICA 5
ESPINHO 1

SPORTING 2
FARENSE 0

GIL VICENTE 2
ESTORIL 0

SWITZERLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

WEEKEND

LUGANO 2 (Sylvestre 22, Pelosi 88).
FC ZURICH 0. **Att:** 4,750.

SERVETTE 0
AARAU 2 (Alexandrov 6, Wyss 62). **Att:** 8,000.

SION 3 (Hottiger 50, Tulio 63, Orlando 83).
NEUCHATEL 1 (Wittel 49). **Att:** 7,050.

YOUNG BOYS 1 (Hamzy 28).
LAUSANNE SPORTS 0. **Att:** 7,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MARCH 7

WEEKEND

ZURICH 0
YOUNG BOYS 0. **Att:** 1,600.

AARAU 1 (Di Matteo 68)
LUGANO 1 (Zuffi 53). **Att:** 5,300.

NEUCHATEL 3 (Manfreda 4, 92, Bonnin 85)
SERVETTE 0. **Att:** 9,400.

LAUSANNE 1 (Poulard 50)
SION 0. **Att:** 8,500.

INTERNATIONAL

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

Jan 31 = Nicosia — friendly
CYPRUS 0
POLAND 0
Att: 3,500. **Ref:** Loizu (Cyp)
Cyprus: Y Ioannou (Onisforu 55) — Kosta, Pittas, D Ioannou, Hadkilukas (Christofi 61) — Yiangudakis, G Ioannou (Antoniu 46), Larku (Panagi 46) — Sotiriu, Papavasiliu (Malekos 40), Zempasis.
Poland: Matisek — Rzepka (Jegor 76), Szewczyk, Bak, Waldoch — Czerwiec (Gesior 80), Staniek, Kobylanski, Brzeczek — Kowalczyk, Milczarski (Cebula 60).

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Feb 3 = Tel-Aviv — friendly
ISRAEL 0
POLAND 0
Att: 1,000. **Ref:** Ben Itzhak (Isr)
Israel: Ginzburg (Antman 46) — Halfon, Klinger, Shelach, Hilel — Elmeich (Hazan 46), Atar, Banin, Nimny — Harazi (Benaya 82), Ohana (Drieks 75).
Poland: Klak — Jalocha, Bak, Waldoch, Zcewczyk — Gesior, Kobilanski, Brzeczek (Jegor 79), Swierczewski — Kowalczy, Cebula (Czerwiec 46).

Feb 3 = Lima — friendly
PERU 0
ROMANIA 2 (Hanganu 44, Dumitrescu 49)
HT: 0-1.
Att: 10,000.
Peru: Quesada — Charrun, Reinoso (Earl), Duffo, Pinillos — Carranza, Soto (Rodriguez), Torrealva (Palacios), Hurtado — Baroni (Muchotrigo), Rivera.
Romania: Prunea — Cristescu, Cheregi (Necula 57), Sandoi, Selymesi — C Pana (Moisescu 89), Timofte I, D Munteanu, Stinga (Gane 85) — Hanganu (Ceausila 68), I Dumitrescu.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Feb 6 = Los Angeles — friendly
EL SALVADOR 0
DENMARK 2 (Brian Nielsen 26, Elstrup 60)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 20,000.

Feb 6 = Santa Barbara, Calif — friendly
UNITED STATES 1 (Kinnear 2)
ROMANIA 1 (Dumitrescu 39)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 9,127. **Ref:** Angeles (US)
US: Friedel — Balboa, Lapper, Clavijo (Agoos 86), Caligiuri, Michallik (Armstrong 46), Henderson (Jones 62), Sorber, Kinnear, Wynalda, Vermes (Moore 46).
Romania: Prunea — Crisdescu, Sandoi, Necula, Moisescu, Timofte, Pana (Ceausila 51), Munteanu, Dumitrescu, Tinga, Hanganu (Gane 86).

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Feb 10 = Faro — intl friendly
PORTUGAL 1 (Oceano 56)
NORWAY 1 (Sorloth 87)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Urio Velazquez (Spa)
Portugal: Vitor Baia (Silvino 46) — Joao Pinto I, Peixe, Fernando Couto, Helder (Rui Filipe 62) — Vitor Paneira (Rui Barros 46), Oceano, Carlos Xavier, Figo (Paulo Sousa 62), Rui Aguas (Cadete 46), Futre (Domingos 62).
Norway: Rossbach — Halle, T Pedersen, R Nilsen, Lydersen — Flo, Mykland (J O Pedersen 46), Rekdal, Leonhardsen, Skammelsrud (Fjortoft 62), Sorloth.

Feb 10 = Monterrey — intl friendly
MEXICO 2 (Galindo 35, Abuelo Cruz 54)
ROMANIA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 40,000.
Mexico: Campos — Hernandez, Nava, Ramirez, Perales, Ramirez, Ambriz — Garcia Aspe, Patino, Galindo — Hugo Sanchez, Salvador.
Romania: Prunea — S Cristescu, Necula, Sandoi, Selymesi — C Pana (Moisescu), Timofte I (Mihali), Dorinel Munteanu, Ilie Dumitrescu — Hanganu (Gane), Stinga.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Feb 13 = Nicosia — WC Euro gp 4
CYPRUS 0
BELGIUM 3 (Scifo 2, 4, Albert 87)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 3,000. **Ref:** Ceccarini (Ita)
Cyprus: Oniferu — Costa, Y Ioanniou, Constantinou, Kalotheu (Sotiriou 70), Pittas, Savvides, Yiangudakis (Charalambous 60), Papavasiliu, Cristofi, D Ioannou.
Belgium: Preud'homme — Medved, Grun, Albert, Smidts, Staelens, Scifo (Goossens 87), Van der Elst, Boffin, Degryse, Nilis (Czerniatynski 75).

Feb 13 = Orlando — intl friendly
UNITED STATES 0
RUSSIA 1 (Sergeyev 12)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 13,651. **Ref:** Escobar (Gua)
US: Meola — Balboa, Lapper, Caligiuri (Agoos 83), Clavijo, Armstrong (Sorber 53), Woodring (Michallik 79), Kinnear, Vermes (Jones 63), Klopas, Henderson (Moore 63).
Russia: Cherchesov — Khlestov, Chernishov, Ivanov, Onopko, Lediakov (Afanasiev 83), Popov (Tedayev 33), Karpin, Bestchastnikh, Sergeyev (Matveyev 70), Radchenko.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Feb 16 = San Jose — CONCACAF chp
COSTA RICA 6 (Asua 13, 42, Rodriguez 37, Arguedas 60, Gomez 61, 68)
NICARAGUA 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 3,626. **Ref:** Thomas (Pan)
Costa Rica: Lonis — Gomez, Barquero, Gonzalez (Parks 66), Peynado, Rodriguez — Rowe, Arguedas, Paniagua — Astua (Velazquez 66), Gomez.
Nicaragua: Orellana — N Gonzalez, Olivas, A Gonzalez (Barrios 46), mena (Bado 87) — S Cruz, Narvaez, D Cruz, Zambrano — Bandana, Rostran.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Feb 17 = Glasgow/Ibrox — WC Euro gp 1
SCOTLAND 3 (McCoist 15, 68, Nevin 84)
MALTA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 35,490. **Ref:** Kiho (Fin).
Scotland: Goram — McPherson

(Robertson 64), Boyd, McStay, McLeish, McLaren, Nevin, McAllister (Ferguson 73), McCoist, Collins, Jess.
Malta: Cluett — S Vella, Buhagiar (E Camilleri 83), Galea, Brincat, Buttigieg, Busuttil, Saliba, J Camilleri, Laferla, Sultana (R Vella 74).

Feb 17 = Wembley — WC Euro gp 2
ENGLAND 6 (Platt 13, 24, 67, 83, Palmer 78, Ferdinand 86)
SAN MARINO 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 51,154. **Ref:** Philippi (Lux)
England: Woods — Dixon, Walker, Adams, Dorigo, Gascoigne, Batty, Platt, Palmer, Ferdinand, Barnes.
San Marino: Benedettini — B Muccioli, L Zanotti, M Mazza, Gennari, Canti, Guerra, Manzaroli, Bacciocchi (P Mazza 63), Bonini, Francini (Matteoni 80).

Feb 17 = Tirana — WC Euro gp 3
ALBANIA 1 (Rrakli 89)
N IRELAND 2 (Magilton 14, McDonald 38)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 12,000. **Ref:** Bogdanov (Bul)
Albania: Kapliani — Zmijani (Peqini 46), Kacaj, Bano, Vata, Bozgo, Lekbello (I Shulki 46), Fortuzi, Abazi, Rrakli, Demollari.
N Ireland: Wright — Fleming, Morrow, Taggart, Magilton, McDonald, Donaghy, Gray, Dowie (Quinn 73), O'Neill, Black.

Feb 17 = Athens — WC Euro gp 5
GREECE 2 (Dimitriadis 30pen, Mitropulos 65)
LUXEMBOURG 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 40,000. **Ref:** Krondl (Cze).
Greece: Minou — Manolas, Apostolakis, Katitzakis, Tsaluhidis, Noplias, Tsiantakis, Dinitriadis, Donis (Mitropulos 58), Frantzeskos (Karapialis 56), Karataidis.
Luxembourg: Koch — Petry, Wolf, Bossi, Birsens, Saibene, Hellers, Weis, Gross (Scuto 67), Malget, Langers.

Feb 17 = Tel Aviv — WC Euro gp 6
ISRAEL 0
FRANCE 4 (Cantona 28, Blanc 62, 84, Roche 89)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 29,000. **Ref:** Wojcik (Pol).
Israel: Ginzburg — Klinger, Halfon, Hazan, A Harazi, Hillel, Atar (Drieks 56), Banim, Nimny, R Harazi, Rosenthal.
France: Lama — Boli, Roche, Blanc, Lizarazu (Loko 82), Deschamps, Sauzee, Le Guen, Ginola (Petit 63), Papin, Cantona.

Feb 17 = Dublin/Tolka Park — intl friendly
REP. OF IRELAND 2 (Sheedy 75, Coyne 81)
WALES 1 (Hughes 18)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 9,500. **Ref:** Karlsson (Swe)
Rep. of Ireland: Bonner (Kelly 46) — Morris, McGoldrick, Carey, O'Leary (Whelan 7; Sheedy 46), Keane, O'Brien, Byrne, Cascarino (Slaven 82), Kelly, McLoughlin.
Wales: Southall (Roberts 83) — Phillips, Bodin, Aizlewood, Young (Coleman 46), Symons, G Williams (Allen 73), Horne, Speed, Hughes, Pembridge.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Feb 18 = Dubai — intl friendly
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES 1 (Hassan Said 67)
BULGARIA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 5,000.
Bulgaria: Popov — Rupchev, Angelov, Bezinski (Slachev), Tzvetanov (Vassev) — Z Yankov, Metkov, Sirakov, Y Petrov (Nankov) — Vidolov, Borimirov (B Yankov).

Feb 18 = Los Angeles — intl friendly
EL SALVADOR 1 (Diaz Arce 60)
RUSSIA 2 (Onopko 53, Tedayev 55)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 16,000.
El Salvador: Garcia — Osorio, Trigueros, Carcamo, Abrego — Vazquez (Cienfuegos 28), Rivera, Mayen, Melendez (Palacios 57) — Diaz Arce, Iraheta.
Russia: Ovechinikov — Khlestov, Skliarov, Ivanov, Afanasiev — Onopko, Karpin (Sergeyev 46), Ledjakov, Tedayev — Bestchastnikh (Matveyev 78), *Radchenko.
** Radchenko sent off, 40min.*

Feb 18 = Buenos Aires — AFA Centenary
ARGENTINA 1 (Mancuso 16)
BRAZIL 1 (Luiz Henrique 60)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 65,000. **Ref:** Filippi (Uru)
Argentina: Islas — Basualdo, Vazquez, Ruggeri, Altamirano — Franco (Zapata 80), Mancuso, Simeone, Maradona — Caniggia (Acosta 80), Batistuta.
Brazil: Taffarel — Cafu, Ricardo Gomes, Celio Silva, Branco — Luiz Henrique (Dunga 86), Mauro Silva, Valdo, Rai — Bebeto, Careca (Muller 82).

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Feb 21 = San Jose — CONCACAF chp
COSTA RICA 2
NICARAGUA 0
Att: 5,000.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Feb 21 = Palo Alto — intl friendly
UNITED STATES 0
RUSSIA 0
Att: 25,879. **Ref:** Parra (Can).
US: Friedel — Balboa, Doyle, Clavijo, Lapper, Armstrong (Caligiui 58), Quinn (Sorber 46), Kinnear, Henderson (Jones 58), Vermes (Moore 69), Harbor.
Russia: Cherchesov — Chernishov, Ivanov, Khlestov, Onopko, Karpin, Ledjakov, Popov (Matveyev 46), Sergeyev, Radchenko, Bestchastnikh (Tedayev 46).

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Feb 24 = Mar del Plata — Franchi Trophy
ARGENTINA 1 (Caniggia 29)
DENMARK 1 (Craviotto og 12)
HT: 1-1. **90min:** 1-1.
Att: 35,000. **Ref:** Puhl (Hun)
Argentina won 5-4 on pens (aet)
Argentina: Goycochea — Craviotto (Saldana 117), Vazquez, Borelli, Altamirano, Simeone, Mancuso, Leo Rodriguez (Franco 61), Maradona, Caniggia, Batistuta.
Denmark: Schmeichel — L Olsen, Rieper, Kjeldbjerg, Piechnik (B S Nielsen 38), Johnny Molby, Goldbaek, Vilfort, H Larsen (M Larsen 119), B Laudrup, Elstrup.

Feb 24 = Oporto — WC Euro gp 1
PORTUGAL 1 (Couto 57)
ITALY 3 (R Baggio 2, Casiraghi 24, D Baggio 75)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 70,000. **Ref:** Karlsson (Swe).
Portugal: Vitor Baia — Joao Pinto I, Helder (Rui Barros 35), Fernando Mendes, Fernando Couto, Oceano, Semedo, Figo, Domingos, Futre, Carlos Xavier (Rui Aguas 46).
Italy: Pagliuca — Tassotti, Maldini, D Baggio, Costacurta, Vierchowod, Fuser, Albertini, Casiraghi (Lentini 26), R Baggio (Mancini 85), Signori.

Feb 24 = Utrecht — WC Euro gp 2
HOLLAND 3 (Overmars 4, Rob Witschge 37, 57)
TURKEY 1 (Feyyaz 36pen)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 14,000. **Ref:** Martin Navarette (Spa).
Holland: De Goey — Silooy, De Kock, R Koeman, Rob Witschge, Wouters (Winter 74), Jonk, Bergkamp, Van Vossen (F De Boer 46), Gullit, Overmars.
Turkey: Engin — Recep, Bulent, Gokhan, Ali, Tugay (Serhat 78), Feyyaz (Saffet 61), Unal, Hakan, Oguz, Orhan.

Feb 24 = Seville — WC Euro gp 3
SPAIN 5 (Cristobal 5, Bakero 13, Beguiristain 18, Christiansen 86, Aldana 89)
LITHUANIA 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 21,000. **Ref:** Micallef (Mal).
Spain: Zubizarreta — Ferrer, Lasa, Alkorta, Giner, Cristobal, Guardiola, Guerrero (Aldana 59), Salinas (Christiansen 69), Bakero, Beguiristain.
Lithuania: Martinkenas — Buzmakovas, Vainoras, Mazeikis, Janoni, Sukristov, Baranauskas, Ivanauskas, Tereskinas (Zuta 69), Fridrikas, Zdancius.

Feb 24 = San Cristobal — intl friendly
VENEZUELA 0
COLOMBIA 0
Att: 10,000. **Ref:** Jacome (Ecu)
Venezuela: Gomez — C Garcia (Filoza 61), Tortolero, Gonzalez, Martinez — Hernandez, Matias, Chacon (J Garcia 87), Echenausi — Rodriguez (Diaz 66), Dolguetta (Guerra 75).
Colombia: Higuita — Herrera, Cassiani, Mendoza, Osorio — Serna (Gaviria 46), Alvarez, C Valderrama (Aristizabal 61), Rincon — Trellez, Valencia (Pacheco 61).

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Feb 26 = Tlemcen — WC African gp A
ALGERIA 2 (Brahimni 60, Mezziane 85)
GHANA 1 (Akunnor 12)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 40,000. **Ref:** Linkechong (Mauritania)
Algeria: Acimi — Amrouche, Meftah, Belatoui, Idirem — El Ouzani, Dahleb (Zekri 75), Tasfaout, Saib — Rahmouni (Brahimni 46), Mezziane.
Ghana: Damba — Asare, Frimpon-Manso, Baffoe, Odoi — Acheampong (Armah 80), Ibrahim, Polley (Kwame Ayew 19), Abedi Pele — Yeboah, Akunnor.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Feb 27 = Enugu — WC African gp D
NIGERIA 2
CONGO 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 30,000.

Feb 27 = Dakar — WC African gp G
SENEGAL 1 (Mamadou Badiane 35)
GABON 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 35,000.

Feb 27 = Nairobi — WC African gp I
KENYA 2 (Motego 6, Nachok 87)
GUINEA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 35,000.
Kenya: Busolo — Z Otieno, Kwarula, Omolo, Muhando — Shoto, Odie, B Otieno (Abubukar), Shim — Lwanga, Motego (Nachok).
Guinea: Salim Diallo — E Bobara, Malayse Suma, Mohamed Sylla, Skou Diame, Omar — Sekou Toure, Abubukar Sidick, Abdul Salam, Suleiman Oulare — Mohamed Zamin, Thiano Bari (Osman Fernandes).

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Feb 28 = Cairo — WC African gp C
EGYPT 2 (Ashraf Qassem 32pen, Hossam Hassan 40)
ZIMBABWE 1 (Agensawa 5)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 120,000.

Feb 28 = Lome — WC African gp C
TOGO 0
ANGOLA 1 (Manuel Numba 83)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 7,000.

Feb 28 = Niamey — WC African gp E
NIGER 2 (Moussa Yahaya 24, Mounkaila Ida 89)
BOTSWANA 1 (Desmond Otto 42)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 8,000.

Feb 28 = Cotinou — WC African gp F
BENIN 1 (Harouna 62)
ETHIOPIA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 5,000.

Feb 28 = Casablanca — WC African gp F
MOROCCO 0
TUNISIA 0
Att: 80,000.

Feb 28 = Lusaka — WC African gp H
ZAMBIA 3 (Mutale 16, Bwalya 65, Mwitwa 68)
MADAGASCAR 1 (Rasonaivo 82)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 60,000.

MONDAY, MARCH 1

Mar 1 = Yaounde — WC African gp B
CAMEROON 0
ZAIRE 0
Att: 10,000.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

Mar 3 = Costa Mesa — intl
UNITED STATES 2 (Kinnear 3, Murray 64pen)
CANADA 2 (MacDonald 14, Catliff 30)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 5,743. **Ref:** Helder Dias (US)
US: Meola (Friedel 46) — Balboa (Armstrong 46), Clavijo, Lapper, Caligiui, Quinn (Sorber 46), Henderson, Murray (Vermes 83), Moore, Kinnear (Chung 46), Harbor.
Canada: Onstad (Dolan 46) — James, Sweeney, Watson, MacDonald, Valentine, Hooper, Mitchell, Scott (Norman 58), Catliff (Dasovic 68), Berdusco (Aunger 63).

MERDEKA TOURNAMENT
(Kuala Lumpur)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Group A							
CSKA Sofia	3	2	1	0	3	0	5
Malaysia	3	1	2	0	3	2	4
Thailand	3	0	2	1	2	3	2
Singapore	3	0	1	2	2	5	1
Group B							
FC Aarau	3	2	1	0	8	2	5
S Korea	3	2	1	0	8	3	5
Ghana	3	1	0	2	3	4	2
Indonesia	3	0	0	3	0	10	0

Semi-finals: Malaysia 2, FC Aarau 1; S Korea 1, CSKA Sofia 0.
Final: Malaysia 3, S Korea 1 (aet)

BALTIC CUP
(Indoors in Finland)
Semi-finals: Finland 0, Estonia 0 (4-3 pens); Latvia 1, Lithuania 2.
3rd place: Latvia 2, Estonia 0.
Final: Finland 3, Lithuania 0.

OTHER MATCHES
Feb 3: Mexico 2, Millonarios 1.
Feb 6: Charleroi 1, Luxembourg 1.
Feb 9 *(Mission Viejo, Calif)*: **US 2** (Henderson 84, Jones 90), **FC Zurich 1** (Skoro 31); *(Loule)*: **Portugal U-21 1** (Toni 51), **Norway U-21 0.**
Feb 10: Portugal U-20 1, Norway U-20 1.
Feb 12: Portugal U-20 2, Denmark U-20 0.
Feb 13: Borussia Dortmund 3, Australia 0; Italy Serie B U-21 3, Croatia 1; Denmark U-20 1, Norway U-20 0 (Portugal win triangular tournament); **El Salvador 2, Saarbrucken 0.**
Feb 14: Kosovo XI 1, Albania 3.
Feb 16 *(Southampton)*: **England U-19 0, Denmark U-19 1** (Tengberg 79); **Juventus 3, Japan 1.**
Feb 18: Albania 3, Kosovo XI 0.
Feb 20: Napoli 4, Austria 0.
Feb 22: Roma 1, Austria 1.

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP

GROUP 1
Oct 13 *(Perth)*: **Scotland 0, Portugal 0. Oct 15** *(Cremona)*: **Italy 1** (Vieri 53), **Switzerland 0. Nov 17** *(Grenchen)*: **Switzerland 4** (Camenzind 15, Margarini 28, Comisetti 30, Karlen 37), **Malta 0. Dec 16** *(Valletta)*: **Malta 0, Italy 1** (Galea og 70). **Jan 23: Malta 0, Portugal 2** (Miguel Bruno 60, 77). **Feb 16** *(Aberdeen/Pittodrie)*: **Scotland 3** (Booth 31, 89, Ferguson 48), **Malta 0. Feb 23** *(Braga)*: **Portugal 2** (Jorge Costa 55, Toni 61), **Italy 0.**

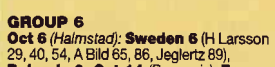
GROUP 2
Oct 6 *(Serravalle)*: **San Marino 0, Norway 3** (Strandli 26, Swift 56, Petter 76). **Oct 13** *(Utrecht)*: **Holland 1** (Van Gastel 77), **Poland 3** (Hajto 25, Wojciechowski 28, Dabrowski 49); *(Peterborough)*: **England 0, Norway 2** (Strandli 2, Haland 67). **Oct 27** *(Ankara)*: **Turkey 4** (Hasan 7, Bulent 16, 21, Mustafa 44), **San Marino 0. Nov 17** *(Brisbane Road, London)*: **England 0, Turkey 1** (Aydin 76). **Dec 15** *(Istanbul)*: **Turkey 1** (Mujdat 21), **Holland 1** (Davids 14). **Feb 16** *(Luton)*: **England 6** (Hall 22, Flitcroft 24, Anderton 36, Sheron 44, Redknapp 70, McManaman 87), **San Marino 0. Feb 23: Holland 0, Turkey 1. Mar 9** *(Serravalle)*: **San Marino 0, Turkey 2** (Hakan 43, Arif 58).

GROUP 3
Oct 13 *(Copenhagen/Osterbro)*: **Denmark 3** (Kristensen 14, Moller 35, 52), **Rep Ireland 2** (Dempsey 5, McGrath 84). **Nov 17** *(Tirana)*: **Albania 0, Germany 1** (Unger 21); *(Jerez)*: **Spain 2** (Kiko 24, Acosta 27), **Rep. Ireland 1** (McCarthy 65). **Dec 15** *(Osnabruck)*: **Germany 1** (Herrlich 37), **Spain 2** (Christiansen 48 o.g., Oscar 65). **Dec 23** *(Osnabruck)*: **Germany 4** (Munch 48, Herrlich 75, 89, Haber 88), **Albania 1** (Pali 56). **Mar 9** *(Dublin)*: **Rep Ireland 0, Germany 1** (Wuck 73).

GROUP 4
Oct 13 *(Seraing)*: **Belgium 1** (Crasson 89), **Romania 0;** *(Larnaca/Papadopulos)*: **Cyprus 2** (Marios 64, Kiriakos 84), **Wales 4** (Bowen 34, Blake 39, 50, 75). **Nov 13** *(Bucharest)*: **Romania 1** (Moldovan 44), **Czechoslovakia 0. Nov 17** *(Kortrijk)*: **Belgium 3** (Crasson 25 pen, Goossens 27, Walem 82), **Wales 1** (Lee Jones 21). **Nov 28** *(Paralimni)*: **Cyprus 0, Romania 2** (Safta 31, Stinga 74).

GROUP 5
Oct 7 *(Reykjavik)*: **Iceland 1** (T Gudjonsson 81pen), **Greece 3** (Mahlas 4, Kostic 73, 88). **Oct 13** *(Moscow)*: **Russia 5, Iceland 0. Oct 27** *(Moscow)*: **Russia 2** (Sherbakov, Beshchastnikh), **Luxembourg 1** (Cardoni). **Nov 10** *(Edhessa)*: **Greece 2, Hungary 1. Nov 11** *(Bucharest)*: **Romania 1** (Moldovan 44), **Czechoslovakia 0. Nov 17** *(Kortrijk)*: **Belgium 3** (Crasson 25 pen, Goossens 27, Walem 82), **Wales 1** (Lee Jones 21). **Feb 17** *(Athens)*: **Greece 6** (Gonias 7, 52, Giorgatos 9, 68, Alexoudis 80, Poursanides 89), **Luxembourg 0.**

GROUP 6
Oct 6 *(Halmstad)*: **Sweden 6** (H Larsson 29, 40, 54, A Bild 65, 86, Jeglertz 89), **Bulgaria 0. Oct 14** *(Beauvais)*: **France 6** (Ouedec 8pen, Pedros 12, Nouma 33, Dugarry 41, 55, Vairelles 77), **Austria 1** (Thetis og 44). **Oct 27** *(Vienna)*: **Austria 1** (Pirk 15), **Israel 5** (Keisy 20, Revivo 25 pen, 27, Mizrahi 75, Torjman 76). **Nov 10** *(Herzliya)*: **Israel 1, Sweden 1. Dec 1: Israel 1, Bulgaria 2. Feb 16** *(Herzliya)*: **Israel 1** (A Mizrahi 74pen), **France 2** (Dugarry 12, 85).



LIBERTADORES CUP

First round — group 1

February 7
In Puerto Ordaz, Venezuela.
MINERVEN (Ven) 1 (Matuszyczk)
CARACAS FC (Ven) 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 15,000.
Minerven: Carrillo, Camacaro, J. C. Pacheco, Rodallega, Tortolero, W. Pacheco, Garcia, Guerra, Malcucho, Matuszyczk, Morales.
Caracas: Baena,Carrero (Cavallo), Maldonado (Morovic), Paez Pumar, Miranda, Letelier, Jimenez, Diaz, Lopez, Echenausi, Vogler.
● Both teams played slowly and carefully with little goal action.

February 10
In Lima, Peru.
SPORTING CRISTAL (Peru) 1 (Torres)
UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) 3 (Martinez, Baroni, Gonzales)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 36,700.
Sporting Cristal: Quesada, Rojas, Arteaga, Duffo, Pinillos, Soto (Palacios), Marquinho, Garay, Torres, Baldessari (Maestri), Julinho.
Universitario: Marrou, Charun, Asteggiano, Carranza, Bravo, Rodriguez (Bazalar), Martinez, Nunes, Baroni (Torrealva), Silva, Gonzales.
● Although Cristal, who had not been beaten by their town rivals in two years, scored first, their slow defence (in spite of lining up four internationals) could not hold the Universitario attack, specially newcomer Nunes who fitted in very well.

February 16
In Lima, Peru.
SPORTING CRISTAL (Peru) 0
CARACAS FC (Ven) 1 (Letelier)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000.
Sporting Cristal: Miranda, Arteaga, Duffo, Lobaton, Garay, Palacios, Soto (Torres), Julinho, Rivera, Baldessari, Ramirez.
Caracas: Baena, Paez, Maldonado, Perez, Echenausi, Lopez, Diaz, Cavallo, Salisu (Vogler), Miranda, Letelier (Mauro).
● Cristal were disorganized and their expensive newcomers failed to hit it off which enabled Caracas to take control and cause the major upset in the group. When Cristal pressed for the equalizer later, goalkeeper Baena became the hero.

February 19
In Lima, Peru.
UNIVERSITARIO (Peru) 4 (Nunes 2, Baroni, Carranza)
CARACAS FC (Ven) 1 (Diaz)
HT: 2-1. **Ref:** Humberto Aliaga (Bol). **Att:** 30,000.
● Universitario attacked from the start to take a 15-minute lead through their outstanding Paraguayan veteran Nunes, but then momentarily lost control for Caracas to equalize. But the Venezuelan team could not repeat their "giant-killing" act of a few days earlier and after Universitario regained the lead after 38 minutes they never lost control.

Group 3

February 17
In Quito, Ecuador.
NACIONAL (Ecu) 1 (Chala)
BARCELONA (Ecu) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Alfredo Rodas (Ecu). **Att:** 30,000.
Nacional: Reinoso, Carcelen, Ballesteros, Quinonez, Guerrero, Mosquera, Vega, Constante (Echeverria), Castaneda, Chala (Valencia), Cherrez.
Barcelona: Morales, Montanero, Noriega (Gomez), Macias, Tenorio, Rosero, Carabli (Reascos), Gavica, Munoz, Gilson, Uquillas.
● Nacional dominated early on with Barcelona managing to even up play halfway through the first half. After the interval, Barcelona pressed for an equalizer but their attacks were well held by the Nacional defence.

In Montevideo, Uruguay.
NACIONAL (Uru) 2 (Julio Dely Valdez, Soca pen.)
BELLA VISTA (Uru) 2 (Ferraro pen, Lujambia)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** E. Dluzniewski (Uru). **Att:** 10,000.
Nacional: Sere, Mendez, Revelez, Madrid, Soca, Suarez, Gutierrez, Lemos, Miranda (J. Garcia), Gonzalez, Dely Valdez.
Bella Vista: Anon, Rosa, De Leon, Michelini, Nunez, Acosta, Tito (Lujambio), Carballo, Marquez, Lopez Baez, Ferraro.
● Bella Vista fought back to gain a remarkable draw in the final minute although playing with only nine men. Rosa was sent off after 71 minutes and Lopez Baez two minutes later when they were trialing 2-1 to a Nacional team which appeared on top although not playing up to form.

Group 4

February 10
In Porto Alegre, Brazil.
INTERNACIONAL (Bra) 0
FLAMENGO (Bra) 0
Att: 35,000. **Ref:** Marcio Resende De Freitas (Brazil).
Internacional: Fernandez, Celio Lino, Celio Silva, Pinga, Daniel, Jandir (Mauricio), Elson, Silas, Marquinhos, Caico, Nando.
Flamengo: Gilmar, Fabinho, Junior Bahiano, Rogerio, Pia, Marquinhos, Junior, Nelio, Marcelinho, Renato, Nilson.
● A tactical and sometimes rough match, mostly in midfield with Flamengo a bit more attack-minded in the early part although Internacional had the best goal chances. Junior's precision passes found little response from his Flamengo forwards.

February 11
In Cali, Colombia.
AMERICA (Col) 0
NACIONAL (Col) 3 (Caicedo, Trellez 2, one pen.)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** J. Zuluaga (Col). **Att:** 16,000.

CONTINUED OVER

America: J. Gomez, Perez, Cassiani, Bermudez, Ampudia, Lozano (Ferreira), Cabrera (D. Gomez), Rincon, Alex Escobar, Da Silva, Orlando Maturana.
Nacional: Higuita, Herrera, Andres Escobar, Caicedo, Restrepo, Gaviria, Jaime Gomez, Alex Garcia, Serna, Aristisabal (Fajardo), Trellez.
● Higuita gave an outstanding performance in the Nacional goal and also saved a penalty in his team's easy away win helped by the fact that America goalkeeper Jorge Gomez was sent off for a professional foul after only 15 minutes.

February 16
In Cali, Colombia.
AMERICA (Col) 2 (Ferreira, Da Silva)
FLAMENGO (Bra) 1 (Nilson)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** L. Seminario (Peru). **Att:** 11,000.
America: Comizzo, Wilson Perez, Cassiani, Jimenez, Ampudia, Alvarez, Lozano, Ferreira (Alex Escobar), Rincon, De Avila, Jorge Da Silva (Usuriaga).
Flamengo: Gilmar, Pia, Junior Bahiano, Gottardo (Marcelinho), Rogerio, Fabinho, Marquinhos, Junior (Da Jaima), Nelio, Renato Gaucho, Nilson.
● Flamengo played defensively for a point and although they managed to equalize America's 12 minute opener with one of their surprise moves, they went down deservedly in the end.

February 19
In Medellin, Colombia.
NACIONAL (Col) 0
FLAMENGO (Bra) 1 (Renato Gaucho)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 43,000.
Nacional: Higuita, Herrera, Caicedo, Andres Escobar, Gilardo Gomez, Gabriel Gomez, Gaviria (Zuniga), Garcia (Fajardo), Serna, Aristizabal, Trellez.
Flamengo: Gilmar, Junior Bahiano, Gottardo, Rogerio, Pia, Marquinho, Junior, Nelio, Renato Gaucho, Marcelinho, Fabinho.
● Higuita, after being the hero in Nacional's previous cup match, was the villain this time as the only goal came as a result of his mistake and this ended a 17-year stretch in which his team had not lost a cup match at home. Renato Gaucho was the Brazilian team's best man and they might have won more easily, but missed chances.

Group 5

February 5
In Asuncion, Paraguay.
CERRO PORTENO (Par) 0
OLIMPIA (Par) 0
Cerro Porteno: Mondragon, Balu, Sanabria, Capurro, Dida, Cristaldo, Riveros (Ferreira), Struway, Arce, Chaves, Rossi.
Olimpia: Goycoochea, Caceres, Castro, Ayala, Suarez, Cubilla (Jara Heyn), Vidal Sanabria, Ruberto, Villalba (Miguel Sanabria), Amarilla, Caballero.
● In an even match, Olimpia — who included none of their new men — showed better teamwork and were a bit nearer victory than Cerro who had four new men in their lineup.

February 7
In Buenos Aires, Argentina.
RIVER PLATE (Arg) 0
NEWELL'S OB (Arg) 1 (Zamora)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** F. Lamolina (Arg). **Att:** 10,000.
River Plate: Miguel, Basualdo, Caceres, Bustos, Altamirano, H. Diaz, Zapata, Vazquez (Ortega), Da Silva (Toresani), Medina Bello, R. Diaz.
Newell's OB: Scoponi, Saldana, Raggio, Pochetino, Berizzo, Martino, Llop, Berti, Mendoza (Cozzoni), Enria (Escudero), Zamora.
● River Plate had more of the ball and more goal chances for most of the game as Newell's defended for an away point and held their rivals well. In one of several good second half counter-attacks, Zamora scored a beautiful goal 20 minutes from the end while River Plate's continuous attacks just could not get through afterwards and Scoponi also made some good saves.

February 12
in Asuncion, Paraguay.
CERRO PORTENO (Par) 0
NEWELL'S OLD BOYS (Arg) 0
Ref: I. Guerrero (Chile). **Att:** 30,000.
Cerro Porteno: Mondragon, Sanabria, Cristaldo, Capurro, Struway, Dida, Arce (Villagra), Sotelo (Balu), Chavez, Rossi, Ferreira.
Newell's OB: Scoponi, Saldana, Raggio, Pochettino, Berizzo, Berti, Llop,Martino (Cozzoni), Zamora, Enria (Escudero), Mendoza.
● In an even match, Cerro Porteno tried to attack more but were well held by the Newell's defence and some good goalkeeping by Scoponi.

February 16
In Asuncion, Paraguay.
CERRO PORTENO (Par) 1 (Gonzalez)
NEWELL'S OLD BOYS (Arg) 1 (Saldana)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** H. Silva (Chile). **Att:** 30,000.
Olimpia: Goycoochea, Caceres, Castro, Ayala, Suarez, Jara Heyn, Vidal Sanabria, Monzon (Ruberto), Gonzalez, Amarilla, Caballero (Miguel Sanabria).
Newell's OB: Scoponi, Saldana, Pochettino, Raggio, Berizzo (Garfagnoli), Martino, Llop, Berti, Escudero (Odriozola), Zamora, Mendoza.
● Newell's completed their three away games with one win and two draws, but were lucky in this game. Olimpia, leading 1-0, had a second goal disallowed which Scoponi clearly stopped behind the line. But both teams dominated the action in turn and might have scored more goals.

MAJOR CLUB INTERNATIONALS

Jan. 29: Cobreloa (Chile) 1 Slovan Bratislava 1 *(Cobreloa won 5-4 on pens)*; Olimpia (Par) 5 Mitsubishi (Jap) 1.
Jan. 31: Olimpia (Par) 1 Dep. Mandiyu (Arg) 0; Gimnasia y Esgrima de La Plata (Arg) 4 Mitsubishi (Jap) 1.
Feb. 4: Everton (Chi) 2 Slovan Bratislava 1; Belgrano Cordoba (Arg) 1 Mitsubishi (Jap) 0; Botafogo (Bra) 1 Saarbrucken (Ger) 0 *(in San Salvador)*.
Feb. 7: Botafogo (Bra) 0 Union Espanola (Chile) 0 *(Botafogo won 6-5 on pens, in San Salvador)*.
Feb. 8: Emelec (Ecu) 1 Millonarios (Col) 0; Barcelona (Ecu) 1 Cobreloa (Chile) 0; Independiente (Col) 4 Nacional (Ecu) 1.
Feb. 9: Belgrano (Arg) 3 Gremio (Bra) 2.
Feb. 11: Olimpia (Par) 2 Racing Club (Arg) 1.
Feb. 12: Universidad de Chile 0 Sao Paulo (Bra) 2; Wanderers 1 Moscow Dynamo 2.
Feb. 13: Universidad de Chile 6 Moscow Dynamo 5.
Feb. 14: Sportivo Luqueno (Par) 1 Dep. Mandiyu (Arg) 0.

OTHER INTERNATIONALS

Jan. 25: Chaco For Ever (Arg) 1 Romania Select 1.
Jan. 27: Newell's Old Boys (Arg) 0 Romania Select 0.
Jan. 29: San Salvador Select 0 Millonarios (Col) 0.
Feb. 2: Mexico Select 2 Millonarios (Col) 1.
Feb. 4: Talleres Cordoba (Arg) 0 Bielorrusia Select 1.
Feb. 6: El Salvador Select 0 Union Espanola (Chile) 1.
Feb. 7: El Salvador Select 2 Saarbrucken (Ger) 0; Belgrano Cordoba (Arg) 1 Bielorrusia Select 1 *(Belgrano won 3-2 on pens)*.
Feb. 10: Honduras Select 1 Union Espanola (Chile) 1.

SOUTH AMERICAN U-17 CHAMPIONSHIP (in Colombia)

Group play
January 30-February 8

Group A: Argentina 2 Ecuador 0; Colombia 2 Peru 0; Peru 2 Ecuador 1; Argentina 3 Venezuela 0; Peru 1 Venezuela 1; Colombia 4 Ecuador 1; Argentina 3 Peru 0; Colombia 2 Venezuela 0; Ecuador 2 Venezuela 1; Colombia 2 Argentina 0.

Group B: Paraguay 1 Uruguay 0; Brazil 3 Chile 2; Chile 5 Paraguay 2; Brazil 2 Bolivia 0; Paraguay 4 Bolivia 0; Uruguay 3 Chile 0; Chile 8 Bolivia 0; Brazil 2 Uruguay 1; Uruguay 6 Bolivia 0; Brazil 1 Paraguay 0.

Group A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
COLOMBIA	4	4	0	0	10	1	8
ARGENTINA	4	3	0	1	8	2	6
Peru	4	1	1	2	5	8	3
Ecuador	4	1	0	3	5	8	2
Venezuela	4	0	1	3	2	8	1

Group B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BRAZIL	4	4	0	0	8	0	8
CHILE	4	2	0	2	15	5	4
Uruguay	4	2	0	2	10	3	4
Paraguay	4	2	0	2	7	6	4
Bolivia	4	0	0	4	0	20	0

Top two of each group qualify for final round.

Final round — February 10-14
Argentina 2 Brazil 1; Colombia 1 Chile 1; Brazil 2 Chile 2; Colombia 1 Argentina 0; Argentina 2 Chile 2; Colombia 2 Brazil 2.

Final Standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
COLOMBIA	3	1	2	0	4	3	4
CHILE	3	0	3	0	5	5	3
ARGENTINA	3	1	1	1	4	4	3
Brazil	3	0	2	1	5	6	3

Top three qualify for U-17 World Championship in Japan.

1993 LIBERTADORES CUP

FIRST ROUND
GROUP A
(Peru-Venezuela)

07.02.93	Minerven (V) v Caracas (V)	0-0
10.02.93	Sp. Cristal (P) v Universitatrio (P)	1-3
16.02.93	Sporting Cristal v Caracas	0-1
19.02.93	Universitario v Caracas	4-1
02.03.93	Sporting Cristal v Minerven	6-2
05.03.93	Universitario v Minerven	2-0
10.03.93	Caracas v Minerven	
10.03.93	Universitario v Sporting Cristal	
16.03.93	Caracas v Sporting Cristal	
19.03.93	Minerven v Sporting Cristal	
23.03.93	Minerven v Universitario	
26.03.93	Caracas v Universitario	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Universitario	3	3	0	0	9	2	6
Caracas	3	1	1	1	2	4	3
Sporting Cristal	3	1	0	2	7	6	2
Minerven	3	0	1	2	2	8	1

GROUP B
(Bolivia-Chile)

24.02.93	Cobreloa (Chi) v U. Catolica (Chi)	1-1
25.02.93	Bolivar (Bol) v San Jose (Bol)	3-1
02.03.93	Bolivar v Univ. Catolica	3-1
05.03.93	San Jose v Univ. Catolica	2-5
09.03.93	Bolivar v Cobreloa	3-0
11.03.93	San Jose v Cobreloa	
17.03.93	San Jose v Bolivar	
17.03.93	Univ. Catolica v Cobreloa	
23.03.93	Cobreloa v San Jose	
26.03.93	Univ. Catolica v San Jose	
30.03.93	Cobreloa v Bolivar	
02.04.93	Univ. Catolica v Bolivar	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bolivar	3	3	0	0	9	2	6
Univ. Catolica	3	1	1	1	7	6	3
Cobreloa	2	0	1	1	1	4	1
San Jose	2	0	0	2	3	8	0

GROUP C
(Uruguay-Ecuador)

17.02.93	Nacional (Ecu) v Barcelona (Ecu)	1-0
17.02.93	Nacional (Uru) v Bella Vista (Uru)	2-2
23.02.93	Barcelona v Bella Vista	2-0
26.02.93	Nacional v Bella Vista	5-0
02.03.93	Barcelona v Nacional (Uru)	1-1
05.03.93	Nacional v Nacional (Uru)	2-0
10.03.93	Barcelona v Nacional	
10.03.93	Bella Vista v Nacional (Uru)	
16.03.93	Bella Vista v Barcelona	
19.03.93	Nacional (Uru) v Barcelona	
23.03.93	Bella Vista v Nacional	
26.03.93	Nacional (Uru) v Nacional	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nacional (Ecu)	3	3	0	0	8	0	6
Barcelona	3	1	1	1	3	2	3
Nacional (Uru)	3	0	2	1	3	5	2
Bella Vista	3	0	1	2	2	9	1

GROUP D
(Brazil-Colombia)

10.02.93	Inter (Bra) v Flamengo (Bra)	0-0
11.02.93	America (Col) v Nacional (Col)	0-3
16.02.93	America v Flamengo	2-1
19.02.93	Nacional v Flamengo	0-1
02.03.93	Flamengo v America	1-3
05.03.93	Inter v America	1-1
10.03.93	Flamengo v Inter	
11.03.93	Nacional v America	
16.03.93	Inter v Nacional	
19.03.93	Flamengo v Nacional	
23.03.93	America v Inter	
26.03.93	Nacional v Inter	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
America	4	2	1	1	6	6	5
Flamengo	4	1	1	2	3	5	3
Nacional	2	1	0	1	3	1	2
Inter	2	0	2	0	1	1	2

GROUP E
(Argentina-Paraguay)

05.02.93	C. Porteno (P) v Olimpia (P)	0-0
07.02.93	River Plate (Arg) v Newell's OB	0-1
12.02.93	Cerro Porteno v Newell's OB	0-0
16.02.93	Olimpia v Newell's OB	1-1
23.02.93	Cerro Porteno v River Plate	2-1
26.02.93	Olimpia v River Plate	1-1
10.03.93	Newell's OB v River Plate	
10.03.93	Olimpia v Cerro Porteno	
16.03.93	River Plate v Cerro Porteno	
19.03.93	Newell's OB v Cerro Porteno	
23.03.93	Newell's OB v Olimpia	
26.03.93	River Plate v Olimpia	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cerro Porteno	3	1	2	0	2	1	4
Newell's OB	3	1	2	0	2	1	4
Olimpia	3	0	3	0	2	2	3
River Plate	3	0	1	2	2	4	1

SECOND ROUND
First Leg
Wednesday, April 7
Series A 3rd Gp C v Winner Gp A
Series B 3rd Gp D v Winner Gp B
Series C 3rd Gp E v Winner Gp C
Series D 3rd Gp A v Winner Gp C
Series E 3rd Gp B v Winner Gp E
Series F 2nd Gp C v 2nd Gp A
Series G 2nd Gp B v 2nd Gp D
Series H Sao Paulo (Bra) v 2nd Gp E

Second Leg
Wednesday, April 14
Series A Winner Gp A v 3rd Gp C
Series B Winner Gp B v 3rd Gp D
Series C Winner Gp C v 3rd Gp E
Series D Winner Gp D v 3rd Gp A
Series E Winner Gp E v 3rd Gp B
Series F 2nd Gp A v 2nd Gp C
Series G 2nd Gp D v 2nd Gp B
Series H 2nd Gp E v Sao Paulo (Bra)

QUARTER-FINALS
First Leg
Wednesday April 21
Series I Series B v Series A
Series II Series D v Series C
Series III Series F v Series E
Series IV Series H v Series G

Second Leg
Wednesday April 28
Series I Series A v Series B
Series II Series C v Series D
Series III Series E v Series F
Series IV Series G v Series H

SEMI-FINALS
First Leg
Wednesday May 5
Series I winner v *Series I* winner
Series IV winner v *Series III* winner

Second Leg
Wednesday May 12
Series I winner v *Series II* winner
Series III winner v *Series IV* winner

FINAL
First Leg
Wednesday May 19

Second Leg
Wednesday May 26

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The INTERNATIONAL Magazine

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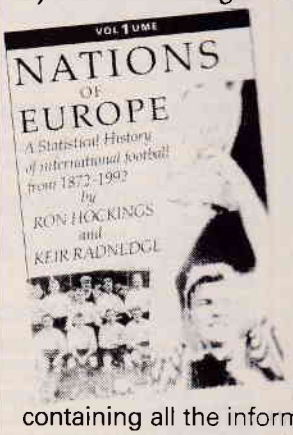
by Ron Hockings and Keir Radnedge



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BRIAN GLANVILLE'S LAST WORD

A little love and lots of loathing

WHATEVER their style, whatever their occasional antics, I've a very soft spot for Wimbledon.

I would dearly like to see them do better financially. I'm still distressed that they had to move from their comfortable if outmoded little ground in Plough Lane to the far-off alien reaches of South East London. I admire tremendously the way they have managed to unearth so much talent either at bargain prices, or at junior level, coaching it themselves.

In the latter process their present somewhat indiscreet manager, Joe Kinnear, was involved with distinction.

I find their Lebanese chairman and benefactor, Sam Hammam, a man of charm. The story of how, without having seen a football match, let alone played in one, he bought up the waning club after a conversation with a taxi driver, is one of the great romances of football. As is Wimbledon's amazing progress from the amateur Isthmian League to FA Cup Final victory at Wembley, and to our top division.

But paranoia seems to lurk somewhere in the club's psyche. Endless criticism of a long-ball style, such images as that of Vinnie Jones reaching back to grab Gazza's genitals, of the whole team baring their backsides before a benefit match, tend to stay in the mind.

Then there is John Fashanu, whom you can love or loathe. Whichever, there can be little doubt that he, still more than Jones, has been the symbol of Wimbledon, and that his effectiveness, not only up front but when he defends, tempts one always to forgive him his trespasses. Combative is as combative does. It must be hell to play against him.

Yet the stupid attacks made on Gary Lineker by Kinnear, who should have checked his facts, and Hammam, who should have known far better, were hard to stomach.

Lineker commented on a BBC Match of the Day programme that the first half of the Wimbledon v Leeds match was such that "you'd have been better off watching it on Ceefax."

First Kinnear and then Hammam responded with such abuse that Lineker, although too genial to take an action for defamation, seemed clearly to have a case had he wanted to.

That first half was a dreary, sterile one, but Leeds, with their far greater resources, were if anything more to blame than Wimbledon, much the better team on the day, and eventual good winners.

Come to that, I thought the whole of the Cup replay between Wimbledon and Aston Villa, which dragged wearily on into extra time and penalties, was a travesty. But again, who should take more of the blame for that?

Wimbledon, built up on a shoestring, or Villa, riding high near the top of the League? When you look at the good players Wimbledon have had to sell, such as Phelan, Winterburn and Curle, it's amazing that they've been able to stay in the top division.

This season, moreover, they've largely had to play without one of the finest of their recent discoveries, the admirably fluent midfielder (where I like him best) or full-back, Barton. Meanwhile, more excellent youngsters are coming through, such as winger Dobbs.

I could not agree less with the Dons' former manager and original inspiration, Dave "Harry" Bassett, that the club should be excluded from the Premier Division because of low gates.

That would be the day when football turned really rotten.

Girls together . . . China's Lijie Niu and Sweden's Anette Hansson.

Up in arms over Legs XI

MY recent allusions to the possibility of women's football being admitted to the Olympic Games — an idea now backed by FIFA — brought a fax of almost hysterical abuse from the English coach of a women's college team, and a much more civilised reproach from a gentleman in New England.

I remain without contrition. Women's tennis, hockey, running, skating, golf, swimming (now that the East German drug culture seems at an end) look fine to me.

But with due obeisance to that grisly Political Correctness which has America in thrall, all due respect for President Hillary Roddam Clinton, I still can't warm to women's football, which always brings to mind Dr. Johnson's description of a woman preaching: "Sir, it is like a dog walking on its hind legs. It is not well done, but it is surprising to see it done at all."

APPARENTLY the ineffable Sepp Blatter will not get his way for a while yet, and one hopes not at all, with the insane idea of a kick-in for a throw.

Bad enough that the coming Under-17 tournament in Japan will be disfigured by this ludicrous experiment.

Talk about putting the clock back. In 1862, when J.C. Thring, a master at Uppingham, tried to bring unity into disparity by framing his rules for The Simplest Game, the kick-in was on the list, in a somewhat bizarre way.

A player who had kicked the ball out was obliged to retrieve it, then kick it in himself in a straight line. Which could I suppose be interpreted either as a kind of punishment, were it to happen in his own half, or as a distinct advantage, were it to happen say on the level of his opponent's penalty area.

A kick-in would be a colossal consumer of time even if Pele, that giant who

Odd points from a poll

THE recent FIFA poll among the world's international team managers, to establish the best player in the game, was surprising and revealing.

You may remember that it was necessary to choose your three best, in descending order, after which the points (5-3-1) were totted up.

Not surprisingly, Marco Van Basten was a runaway winner. His 161 points put him a full 100 ahead of the third-placed player, Thomas Hassler. Hristo Stoichkov had 88, another blow to the pride of a player who hates playing second fiddle to Van Basten.

But several managers didn't vote for Van Basten. Italy's Arrigo Sacchi, England's Graham Taylor and the Irish manager Jack Charlton were among them.

Sacchi's omission of Van Basten brought tart comments in Italy. The two had locked horns in Sacchi's last season with Milan, when he insisted on deploying Van Basten up front alone, to the Dutchman's anger. It was suggested when Sacchi left that that, in a nutshell, was why.

But, wrote one journalist, Enrico Maida, Sacchi is such a good guy that this could not be the reason, could it? The possibility he might really believe in his choice was more alarming still.

One vote . . . Maldini (white shorts) with Ganz of Atalanta.

Sacchi's three were Stoichkov, Paolo Maldini (his only vote) and Dennis Bergkamp, now so expensively transferred to Inter. Taylor put Bergkamp first, Brian Laudrup of Denmark second, Stoichkov third. Charlton chose Laudrup as No. 1, with Peter Schmeichel, his compatriot, second and Frank Rijkaard third.

To put Bergkamp ahead of Van Basten is rather like putting Wise ahead of Morecambe, Allen ahead of Flanagan, Sallieri ahead of Mozart.

Clearly the last European Championship weighed heavily on the choices, but even so I cannot see how Bergkamp could be classed ahead of Van Basten, even though he missed that vital penalty against the Danes.

Van Basten, true, had a mysteriously poor World Cup in Italy, but in Sweden he looked what he is, a great thoroughbred, utterly versatile, willing to take great responsibility.

Only two Englishmen got on the list: Gary Lineker collected four points, well after he had made it known he would leave for Japan and what may be regarded as semi retirement, and Paul Gascoigne took a single third place.

Lineker was chosen second by the manager of the Faroe Islands, third by the manager of Korea. Gazza's only vote came from Australia.

So much for the present status of English football.

Throw out this kick-in, *please*

still so craves attention, backs it (plus women's football!).

Moreover, in certain circumstances, the advantage would be out of all proportion to the offence. And almost all major teams today have a player easily capable of reaching at least the near post with his throws.

The psychopathology of everyday Blatter is obscure. It's awfully hard to see what he hopes to gain with such a daft innovation. Our old friend Busy Idleness seems well to the fore again, or is it just that Blatter is determined to leave his hoof mark on the game, one way or another?

The new rule preventing keepers from handling back passes still seems very much a two-edged sword. Much crude long-balling and booting into touch have followed. Is that what Blatter wanted? Is he happy, now? Oh, hell. I suppose so.

Look, one hand . . . Ruud Gullit ponders before restarting play.

NEXT MONTH IN . . .

WORLD SOCCER

Plain Barmby . . . or what?

Full report from the World Youth Cup

Journey into the unknown

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ASTON VILLA'S
BERLIN BREAKTHROUGH

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